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ABSTRACT

Intended to make the issue of landmines pertinent and accessible to classroom teachers, this curriculum unit helps high school students learn how to undertake an analysis of the anti-personnel landmine crisis in some of the world's most severely affected countries and consider potential programs for landmine removal, recovery, and reconstruction. The unit and assessment could be used in a variety of high school classes, for example geography, economics, political science, and social/human development classes. The unit is divided into the following sections: "Overview and Connections to the Curriculum"; "National Standards and Assessment Description"; "Description of Prior Learning"; "Assessment Instructions for Teachers"; "Assessment Rubric"; "Exemplary Response"; and "Suggested Activities to Prepare for Assessment." It includes 17 handouts for students, consisting of assessment instructions, maps, country profiles, general information about landmines (and their producers and exporters), and opinion articles. (BT)

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Landmines: Exploring the Hidden Crisis. A Standards Based Curriculum Unit for the Secondary Grades.

by J. P. Antony Hurt

SO 031 657

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LANDMINES

EXPLORING THE HIDDEN CRISIS

a standards based curriculum unit for the secondary grades

written by

J.P. Antony Hurt

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CENTER FOR TEACHING INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Landmines:

The Hidden Crisis

For Grades 9 - 12

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Landmines: The Hidden Crisis

The Curriculum series *Landmines: The Hidden Crisis* is a collaborative project of the Center for Teaching International Relations (CTIR) and the US State Department. The Curriculum developers at CTIR created standards based curriculum units to make the issue of landmines pertinent and accessible to the class room teacher. Separate units have been developed for the elementary, middle and high school levels. CTIR has drawn upon the national geography standards outlined in *Geography for Life: National Geography Standards*

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Landmines: The Hidden Crisis
A Unit for High School Students

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TACKLING THE WORLD LANDMINE CRISIS

An analysis of the antipersonnel landmine crisis in some of the world's most severely affected countries, and a consideration of potential programs for landmine removal, recovery and reconstruction.

Overview:
At the end of the twentieth century the indiscriminate use of landmines is one of the tragic legacies of warfare around the globe. According to the United States Department of State's estimates, there are 60 to 80 million landmines in place around the world. (The exact number has always been a point of controversy, and it is very difficult to acquire more accurate information.) Antipersonnel landmines have had an especially devastating impact on civilian populations. International attention and resources have been mobilized to tackle the world landmine crisis. The United Nations (UN), individual governments, especially the United States, non-governmental organizations (NGO's), and international organizations have all been involved in addressing this critical issue. However, the enormity of the landmine problem has impeded international efforts to help war torn countries regain their economic, social, and political infrastructures. In addition, there is a need for more effective international coordination and cooperation.

Connections to the Curriculum: This assessment can be used in a variety of high school geography classes. It could easily be adapted to different regional geography classes depending on one's choice of countries for case studies. It could also be used as an assessment for an economic or political geography unit in a general introductory geography class. It would also be appropriate in an International Relations or similar course.

Inquiry Question: How have landmines disrupted the economic, social, and political infrastructure of war torn countries, and what programs need to be developed for landmine removal as well as long-term recovery and reconstruction?

Time Allotment for Assessment: Three class periods of 50 minutes each.
Time Allotment for Prior Learning: 3 to 4 class periods of 50 minutes each.

Level: 9th -12th grade

Assessment Description

Students are given the following scenario - the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) has appointed them members of its new Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to examine the profiles of six of the most mine-infested countries of the world. They are to consider policy recommendations for the country that they identify as most in need of assistance for landmine removal, recovery and reconstruction. In this capacity students must submit the following information to the UNMAS:

- A prioritization of the six countries from most in need of mine action assistance to least in need, based upon the data provided along with their prior learning. They should then write a succinct needs assessment report regarding mine action assistance for the country that they have ranked as most in need as well as for the country that they have ranked as least in need. They will then briefly compare the mine-related needs of both countries.
- A mine action plan for the one country that they have identified as most in need of landmine removal and recovery assistance.

National Geography Standards Being Addressed:

(From *Geography for Life: National Geography Standards*, 1994)

Students know and understand how to apply geography to interpret the present and plan for the future.

- Students will be able to examine contemporary issues in the context of spatial and environmental perspectives.
- Students will be able to use geographic knowledge, skills, and perspectives to analyze problems and make decisions.

Students know and understand how the forces of cooperation and conflict among people influence the division and control of earth's surface.

- Students will be able to explain and analyze why and how cooperation and conflict are involved in shaping the distribution of social, political, and economic spaces on Earth at different scales.
- Students will be able to explain how differing points of view and self-interests play a role in conflict over territory and resources.

Students know and understand how human actions modify the physical environment.

- Students will be able to analyze and compare the significance of the global impacts of human modification of the physical environment.

Students know and understand how to use maps and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report information from a spatial perspective.

- Students will be able to use maps and other graphic representations to depict geographic problems.
- Students will be able to use geographic representations and tools to analyze, explain, and solve geographic problems.

TACKLING THE WORLD LANDMINE CRISIS

Prior Learning:

Before taking this assessment, students need to have a broad understanding of the world landmine crisis within the context of human geography. They need to understand the extent of the landmine problem in terms of its impact on the civilian population, land and resources, together with the social and economic infrastructures of affected countries. They must realize that the world landmine crisis has far-reaching consequences and requires a multi-faceted and integrated response. Efforts to eradicate the crisis go far beyond the physical removal of landmines, and involve long-term, sustainable humanitarian and developmental goals to recreate an environment in which people can live safely. The landmine crisis can be broken down into issues that are economic, social/human development, and political.

Economic Issues
-estimates of landmine numbers, surveys and mapping.
-the location of landmines in terms of the amount of viable agricultural land/marketing systems impacted.
-the cost of removal, including the cost of technology necessary for mine clearance.
-disrupted infrastructure - roads, water, electricity etc.

Social/Human Development Issues
-victim/survivor assistance.
-refugees and returnees (internally displaced persons).
-mine awareness programs.
-disrupted infrastructure - health care and education.

Political Issues
-the role of the government in demining and reconstruction.
-international treaties/agreements, especially the Ottawa Convention.
-the role of the international community - the UN, US and other countries, NGOs and regional organizations (OAS and the EU).
-coordinating efforts of all parties involved.
-role of the military.
-accountability with regard to the production, use, trade, and stockpiling of landmines.
-disrupted infrastructure - the delivery of government services.

Once students have mastered the objectives outlined in "prior learning" they are ready for this assessment. The activities provided in this curriculum guide help students prepare for the following assessment. A supplementary method of preparation for students could include viewing the video *The Silent Shout* (Complete citation listed in the bibliography).

ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR TEACHER

Day One - Instructions and Preparation Time

Handout and discuss the following:
-the rubric by which student assessments will be scored
-the excerpts from the United Nations Mine Action Policy (UNMAP) and from "Hidden Killers" (Handouts # 2 and 3). Students should already be familiar with these documents from the prior learning.
-the country profiles (Handouts # 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9).
-the data acquisition chart for analyzing mine assistance issues (Handout # 10)

Day Two - Begin Assessment

Pass out "Instructions for Students." (Handout # 1). Tell students to read these instructions, and then clarify any student questions before they begin. In addition to the data provided and the data acquisition chart, students can use an atlas (the author uses the *Goode's World Atlas, 19th. edition*) and any relevant additional notes from the unit studied in class to complete the assessment. Tell students that they should aim to complete the prioritization of the countries and the two needs assessment reports today. Collect all packets and responses at the end of the period.

Day Three - Complete Assessment

Pass out packets and responses. Ask students if they have any questions. Remind them that the entire assessment must be completed by the end of the period, and then tell them to begin. Collect all packets and responses at the end of the period.

Criteria	Weight	Advanced 4 points	Proficient 3 points	Basic 2 points	Limited 1 points
Needs Assessment Reports and Mine Action Program show application of geography to interpret the present and plan for the future of that country	X4	Justification of level of priority, and policies for reconstruction, by using important details, facts, and geographic concepts, is clear and insightful, and is supported with thorough evidence.	Justification of level of priority, and policies for reconstruction, by using geographic concepts and data, is clear, and is supported with adequate evidence.	Use of geographical concepts and data to justify level of priority, and policies for reconstruction is often weak, unclear, and supported with little evidence.	Use of geographical concepts and data to justify level of priority, and policies for reconstruction reflects a lack of understanding. There has been little attempt to support the level of priority, and policies for reconstruction.
Mine Action Program includes economic, social, and political policies that will improve cooperation and reduce conflict in that country.	X3	Selection of policies for Mine Action Program, by systematically using and drawing inferences from the geographical data in the case studies, is effective and thorough, so that specific and relevant information related to improved cooperation and reduced conflict in that country is included.	Selection of policies for Mine Action Program, by using and drawing inferences from the geographical data in the case studies, is clear, so that specific information related to improved cooperation and reduced conflict in that country is included.	Selection of policies for Mine Action Program, by sometimes using the geographical data in the case studies, is unclear, so that inadequate and irrelevant information related to improved cooperation and reduced conflict in that country is included.	Selection of policies for Mine Action Program is based very superficially on the geographical data in the case studies, so that only sketchy information related to improved cooperation and reduced conflict in that country is included.
Needs Assessment Reports analyze and compare the way in which human actions modify the physical environment of mine-infested countries.	X2	Skillful, logical, and insightful analysis and comparison of the needs of two countries, that demonstrates complete understanding of how human actions modify the physical environment.	Logical analysis and comparison of the needs of two countries, that shows adequate understanding of how human actions modify the physical environment.	Sometimes unclear and inconsistent analysis and comparison of the needs of two countries. It is unclear that students understand how human actions modify the physical environment.	Little attempt to analyze and compare the needs of two countries. Reasoning is unclear or missing.
Needs Assessment Reports and Mine Action Program reflect the acquisition and processing of data from a spatial perspective.	X1	Skillful, logical, and insightful analysis of the data in the case studies so that specific and relevant information related to the landmine crisis and long-term recovery has been included.	Logical analysis of the data in the case studies so that specific information related to the landmine crisis and long-term recovery has been included.	Unclear and inconsistent analysis of the data in the case studies so that some irrelevant information related to the landmine crisis and long-term recovery has been included.	Little attempt to analyze the data in the case studies so that only sketchy information related to the landmine crisis and long-term recovery has been included.

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EXEMPLARY RESPONSE: NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

Ranking

First (most in need of assistance for landmine removal etc.)	Angola
Second	Mozambique
Third	Afghanistan
Fourth	Bosnia-Herzegovina
Fifth	Croatia
Sixth	Cambodia

Needs Assessment Report for Angola

As a result of a protracted three decades of civil war, Angola has one of the world's most serious landmine problems. Much of the population has fled, the economy has collapsed, and there are anywhere from 10-15 million landmines in the ground today. Angola has been ranked most in need of assistance for landmine removal and long-term reconstruction largely for the following reasons:

1. Landmines continue to be laid in areas contested between the National Union for the Liberation of Angola (UNITA) and the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA), and there may be as many as 60 different types of landmines in the ground.

2. In Angola, landmines were planted to destroy infrastructure and are concentrated around roads, railways, bridges, and public facilities such as schools, churches, water supply points, and health care facilities. It is thus not surprising that the country's economy has virtually collapsed.

3. Existing Angolan facilities for the rehabilitation of landmine victims are grossly inadequate. Indeed, primary care facilities are in a state of disarray.

Needs Assessment Report for Cambodia

Cambodia has a serious landmine problem because of more than two decades of war. It is estimated that the country has 4 to 6 million landmines in the ground. Cambodia's rural poor have suffered the most and the problems have been compounded by a lack of adequate health and rehabilitation services. However, despite these and other landmine related problems,

1. Cambodia's economy has been slowly recovering. Government leaders are restoring fiscal and monetary discipline and have established a good working relationship with international financial institutions.

2. Cambodia has an ongoing and active demining, coordinated by the Cambodia Mine Action Center (CMAC). Cambodians are trained to conduct large-scale demining activities, and the CMAC has very clear goals and priorities. The demining operations of the CMAC are closely tied to major international involvement and financial support, especially from the United States, NGO's and other international organizations. Cambodia has a viable long-term plan for demining and infrastructural reconstruction

Comparison of Needs

Both Angola and Cambodia have major landmine issues as a result of protracted conflicts. However, Cambodia has an active, ongoing, and coordinated landmine program with international support, while Angola has an ineffective and poorly supported government program. Unlike Cambodia, Angola is still dealing with political conflict and the continued planting of landmines. It also suffers from a lack of reliable information about the number and location of landmines. Cambodia, unlike Angola, has a successful mine awareness program. Indeed, Cambodia has taken major steps towards eradicating its landmine crisis. This has certainly not been the case in Angola.

EXEMPLARY RESPONSE: MINE ACTION PROGRAM

Mine Action Program for Angola.

1. Angola needs to develop the following policies for landmine removal and long-term recovery and reconstruction:

2. Before a Mine Action Program can be effectively implemented, it is crucial that the government address the conflict between UNITA and FAA, so that the continued planting of landmines can be stopped as soon as possible

3. Emphasis and support for the mine survey program now being conducted is crucial if the country is to address the major problem of a lack of reliable information about the location of landmines. This will be a key development in the speedy and effective removal of landmines.

4. Angola's Mine Action Program is in desperate need of funding from the Angolan government as well as donor countries. This is especially necessary for the support and creation of demining brigades. It is especially important that the Angolan government takes some ownership for its demining programs.

5. Rates of manual clearance in Angola are very low. The country needs to initiate research and development for demining technology. This will constitute a major step in improving rates of mine clearance, which are presently much lower than in other countries.

6. Facilities for the rehabilitation of landmine victims must be improved for the people of Angola. Again, the Angolan government needs to take the lead to reduce the country's reliance on foreign aid organizations.

Activities

This unit focuses on the use of land mines around the world. In order to prepare students for the final assessment, three suggested activities follow.

Activity 1: Mapping Landmine production

The purpose of this activity is to help students create a map of the former and present producers of land mines. Students will be asked to discuss production and export trends.

Provide students with Handout 11 (Antipersonnel Landmine Producers (current and former), and Former Exporters of Antipersonnel Mines tables), a world map (Handout 12), and an atlas. Tell students that they will be creating a color-coded map of current and former producers of antipersonnel land mines. They should color current producers red and former producers blue. They should also use appropriate symbols to denote known exporters as well as countries that do not support a ban on mine exports. Allow students approximately 30 minutes to complete this task. Next, have students answer the following questions:

- What could be the motivation to export antipersonnel mines?
- Are there any trends in the production and export of antipersonnel mines?
- Is there a difference in trends between current producers and former producers?
- What could be the motivation to stop producing or exporting antipersonnel mines?
- Why do you think some countries have declared "no export" or issued a ban on exports but have not signed the Treaty?
- What is the relationship between producers and exporters (including those countries that do not support a ban on exports)
- Does one continent seems to have more current and/or former producers and mine exporters others? Why might that be?

Last, the teacher should lead a brief discussion based on the answers to these questions.

Activity 2: The Ottawa Treaty to Ban Landmines

The purpose of this activity is to have students determine whether or not the United States can be a leader in de-mining the world, given the fact that it has not signed the Ottawa Treaty.

Provide students with Handout 13 (Ottawa Convention), Handout 15 (*"U. S. Must Sign The Treaty To Ban Land Mines"* Article) and Handout 16 (Department of State Executive Summary) and Handout 14 (U. S. Contributions to Global Humanitarian Demining and President's Demining 2010 Initiative). Tell students that they have been employed by the human rights group "Human Rights Watch" to write an article which analyzes whether or not the U. S. can take the lead role with global demining without signing the Ottawa Treaty? Students should read all handouts then write an article to answer the question.

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Activity 3: Landmine Awareness Campaign

The purpose of this activity is for students to create a landmine awareness campaign for Eritrea. Students will evaluate the political, social and economic issues that countries must deal with when they are attempting to rid themselves of anti-personnel landmines. Students will produce a written plan for the campaign that addresses all the relevant landmine issues faced by Eritrea.

Provide students with role-playing assignment (Handout 17) and the country profile on Eritrea (Handout 6). Allow students to work with a partner. Read country profile and assignment card together, as a class. Students should then break out in to partner sets and should come up with a land mine awareness campaign for the country of Eritrea. Remember your target audience, as mentioned in the assignment card, is the people of Eritrea.

Instructions for Students

You are a member of the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS). This organization was established by the United Nations to play a key role in managing the response to the global landmine crisis, and to provide the necessary support and coordination mechanisms. It is already very active in many mine-infested countries. As a member of the UNMAS you are to examine the profiles of six of the most mine-infested countries in the world (Angola, Mozambique, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina).

You should prioritize the countries from the most to least in need of assistance for landmine removal and the recreation of an environment in which people can live safely and in which economic, social and political development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine contamination. You should then write a **Needs Assessment Report** for the countries that you have ranked first and sixth. For both of these countries your report should include three specific reasons to justify their level of prioritization. Then you should briefly compare the needs of these two countries regarding mine removal issues. Use handouts # 2 and 3 together with your completed data acquisition chart for analyzing mine assistance issues as a guide.

Further the UNMAS requires you to develop a **Mine Action Program** for the one country that you have identified as most in need of landmine removal and long-term recovery and reconstruction. This program must consist of **five specific policies** that need to be developed as part of the plan. Each policy should address a different issue, and you should briefly elaborate on each of the policies.

For both your Needs Assessment Report and the Mine Action Program, keep your responses focused and connected to the given data. Write in complete sentences and avoid grammatical errors. In your responses be sure to demonstrate your understanding of the unit objectives, since this assessment tests your knowledge of the concepts and content objectives learned during this unit.

EXCERPTS FROM "MINE ACTION AND EFFECTIVE COORDINATION: THE UNITED NATIONS POLICY"

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Years of conflict have left millions of scattered and unrecorded landmines in more than fifty countries. Civilians, children as well as adults, are more and more often targets of these sly weapons in times of war, and have become by the thousands victims of their deadly legacy in times of peace. Landmines have removed vast areas of land and resources from productive use. Countries with weak or barely existing social and economic infrastructures are often hardest hit, and within these countries the poor are those who suffer the most and are least able to cope.

2. There is growing awareness within the international community that what has come to be known as the "global landmine crisis" has far-reaching consequences and requires a multi-faceted and integrated response. There is also recognition that the United Nations (UN) has a key role to play in articulating this response and in providing the necessary support and coordination mechanisms...

III. THE NATURE OF MINE ACTION

5. Mine Action refers to all those activities geared towards addressing the problem faced by populations as a result of landmine contamination. It is not so much about mines as it is about people and their interactions with a mine-infested environment. It's aim is not technical - to survey, mark and eradicate landmines - but humanitarian and developmental - to recreate an environment in which people can live safely, in which economic, social and health development can occur free from the constraints imposed by landmine contamination, and in which victims needs are addressed.

6. A distinction has sometimes been made between operational mine action (i.e. mine action in support of operations mandated by the UN Security Council), humanitarian mine action, and mine action in support of reconstruction and development. The UN does not adhere to this distinction, since it does not reflect the fact that there is considerable overlap between the various aspects of a country's recovery (peacekeeping and peace-building, reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), revival of communities, reconstruction and development), and that what really matters is the establishment of clear priorities in relation to the needs of the affected populations.

7. (...) UN mine action encompasses four complimentary core components:
a. mine awareness and risk reduction education;
b. minefield survey, mapping, marking, and clearance;
c. victim assistance, including rehabilitation and reintegration;
d. advocacy to stigmatize the use of landmines and support a total ban on antipersonnel landmines.

IV. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

A. Scope and nature of the landmine problem

8. (...) The nature and scope of the landmine problem must be defined in terms of its humanitarian, public health, and socio-economic implications, including, in particular, its impact on lives, livelihoods, the provision of humanitarian assistance, and, more generally, an environment which should be safe and conducive to peace-building, reconstruction, and development.

B. Principles for UN assistance in mine action

10. In dealing with the landmine problem, the UN will respect the fundamental humanitarian principles of neutrality, impartiality and humanity so that priority is given to those who are most vulnerable. Training or support for mine action will not, in principle, be provided to the militaries of mine-contaminated countries.

11. (...) In order to receive assistance, relevant parties should be committed to supporting mine action actively, and to desisting from producing, stockpiling, using, and transferring antipersonnel landmines.

C. The notion of integrated and sustainable mine action

14. (...) In countries with long-term needs, mine action programes must be sustainable and should include as a key component the development of a national/local capacity...characterized by its ability to develop and articulate overall policy and direction, as well as to plan, coordinate, manage, and sustain a programme that is accountable, cost-effective, and able to address the humanitarian and socio-economic implications of landmine contamination.

15. Mine action initiatives must also be an integral component of strategies designed to rehabilitate health care, education, infrastructure, agriculture and marketing systems, to name but a few of the requirements of societies recovering from violent conflicts.

D. The requirement for effective coordination

19. Donors, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and other entities concerned with the problem of landmines should be encouraged to coordinate their activities with the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and with the UN and local authorities responsible for mine action in the field.

E. The initiation and development of mine action programmes in the field

23. The primary responsibility for taking action against the presence of landmines lies with the concerned state. Thus, in principle, the Government of the affected country should assume overall responsibility for the coordination and management of a national mine action programme.

24. In circumstances where the UN has to initiate a programme...either because of the requirement to meet urgent humanitarian and operational needs or because of the absence of recognized national authorities, UNMAS will develop the initial programme plan in consultation with all stakeholders, including relevant local partners, NGOs, donors and UN entities.

F. The requirement for prioritization and accountability

27. (...) priorities for mine clearance will often include...the following: provision of emergency assistance, settled land with high civilian casualty rates; land required for the resettlement of refugees IDPs; land required for agriculture; community development; access to and free operation of health services; reconstruction, and infrastructure development.

28. Programmes should also incorporate clearly-defined accountability mechanisms to ensure that priority needs are met and that there is cost-effective use of available resources.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS

B. Contributions of like-minded partners

40. The UN welcomes and acknowledges all contributions to mine action made by like-minded partners from both governments and civil society.

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EXCERPTS FROM: *HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS*

Impediments to Reconstruction

To understand the profound impact of landmine pollution, it is useful to explore how it affects a country's efforts to restore normalcy following a civil war or conflict. Those efforts may be divided into five stages, and the impact of landmines on each is substantial. The first order of business in post-conflict situations is to attempt to mitigate the causes of the original conflict and build confidence that peace can be sustained. Landmines hinder the efforts to return civilians and demobilized soldiers to their former homes if there are known or suspected minefields in the area. This may require extensive and costly arrangements to house and feed refugee populations. They also undermine the confidence and security needed to begin the process of political reconciliation and reestablishment of community services.

A second order of business is reviving economic activity, including devastated infrastructure. A feeling of hope for the future and a return to a more normal life - meaning the absence of war - must soon be accompanied by meaningful employment, the availability of goods and services, particularly food, and the restoration of normal community services - schools, electricity, water supply, roads and other communications systems - and the elimination of landmines, for example. Agricultural land is often a key to economic revitalization in developing societies. The presence or even the presumed presence of landmines reduces the amount of land that can be farmed and increases the need for food aid. Landmines also hinder the repair of irrigation systems that allow for restored production.

A third stage in reviving post-conflict countries may include national elections, which require maximum participation if the new government is to acquire legitimacy. Landmines will hinder an election campaign by preventing access to polling places and impeding dissemination of information and contact with candidates.

A fourth stage in the transition requires a government to extend its presence around the country, particularly in formerly war-torn areas. Mobility is critical to the success of teachers, technicians, extension agents, doctors and other health care workers, and staff of development agencies dealing with the post-conflict situation. Landmines impede the delivery of government services and act as physical obstacles to unity and reconstruction.

The fifth stage of a transition is a consolidation phase. Presumably, a sustainable peace would have been established as people begin to have a stake in the growing economy and evolving political situations. Still, as in the case of Mozambique, large areas of the country continue to be non-productive because of landmines. Removal of the landmines is thus an essential step in the consolidation and progress of the peace process.

FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: ANGOLA

Angola, with an area of 1,246,700 square kilometers, is located in southern Africa, bordering the South Atlantic Ocean on the west and lying between Namibia to the south, Zambia to the east, and Zaire and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the north. It has a semiarid climate in the south and along the coast and a narrow coastal plain that rises abruptly to a vast interior plateau. The country is administratively divided into 18 provinces, with Luanda, the capital, located on the northern coastline. Prior to three decades of civil war, subsistence agriculture provided the main livelihood for 80-90 percent of the population but accounts for only 12 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP); approximately 2 percent of the land is arable. As a result of the war, most of Angola's population has fled the countryside and is concentrated in Luanda and the large provincial capitals. A mid-1997 estimate placed the population at 10,548,847 (footnote 6).

Landmine Problem

More than three decades of almost constant internal conflict have left Angola with one of the world's most serious landmine problems. Civil war has been the norm since 1975. Portuguese, Cuban, and South African forces are known to have deployed landmines, but the overwhelming responsibility lies with the National Union for the Liberation of Angola (UNITA) and the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) (footnote 7).

Characterization of the Problem. The UN estimate of 10 to 15 million landmines in Angola is most often cited, but no comprehensive national survey has yet been completed (footnote 8). The source of the original baseline data remains unknown and the actual number of landmines may never be determined, although 6 million appears to be a more reasonable figure (footnote 9). Some NGOs, based on current clearance experience in Angola, consider the official estimates to be highly exaggerated and believe they

should be lowered to less than a million. (The Hazardous Area Life-Support Organization [HALO] Trust placed the estimate at less than 500,000 in 1997 (footnote 10).) Complicating the issue is the fact that landmines continue to be laid in areas contested between UNITA and the FAA. Approximately 60 different types of antipersonnel and antitank landmines have been found during clearance operations in Angola (footnote 11).

Location of Landmines

There are six to eight heavily mined provinces in Angola covering roughly 50 percent of the country in a band from the northwest border with the Congo to the southeast border with Namibia (footnotes 12, 13). Minefields were planted to destroy infrastructure and are concentrated around roads, railways, bridges, and public facilities such as schools, churches, water supply points, and health care facilities. Cuando Cubango province in the southeast has been largely abandoned due to landmine infestation. Most major roads have been demined, but travel by vehicle is extremely dangerous anywhere on the national road network due to bandit attacks. Consequently, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) has been unable to deliver food overland in certain areas; humanitarian efforts to repatriate refugees are particularly dangerous.

Impact

Angola has abundant natural resources, but the economy is in disarray with output per capita among the world's lowest; food production in some areas has been reduced by more than 25 percent. Despite the 1994 Lusaka Accords between the FAA and UNITA, sporadic violence continues, and many farmers are reluctant to return to their fields (footnote 14). Landmines have made resources inaccessible and are a major hindrance to the implementation of humanitarian aid programs, economic reconstruction, and internal movement and resettlement of IDPs, refugees, and demobilized soldiers. While more than one million IDPs have returned to their homes since 1994, the UN estimates that there are still more than 900,000 IDPs in Angola. In addition, the UNHCR estimates that 240,000 Angolan refugees still remain in bordering countries.

Casualties

In 1995, the UN estimated that 1.5 percent of the population had been injured in landmines or UXO incidents (footnote 15). With one amputee per 334 inhabitants (more than 70,000 victims, mostly women and children), Angola has one of the two highest rates of amputees in the world (footnote 16), although it is not absolutely clear that all of these are mine-related injuries. Lack of a national-level victim database hampers casualty estimation, but, in the past two years, the ICRC and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) have estimated that there are at least 120 new landmine victims per month in Angola (footnote 17).

Country Response

In the past, Angolan mine action activities have suffered from lack of coordination and support between UN organizations as well as the Angolan government. Now, however, the government, supported by the UN Development Program (UNDP) and activities of various NGOs (see below), is making solid progress in identifying minefields, conducting mine awareness training, and training demining personnel. In 1997, a two-year Mine Action Program was agreed upon between the UNDP and the government. Transfer of responsibility for all mine action activities to the government is expected in 1999.

Organization for Demining

A UN Central Mine Action Office (CMAO) was established in 1994, in cooperation with the UN Angolan Verification Mission (UNAVEM) III. In 1995, the government established the National Institute for the Removal of Explosive Obstacles (INAROE) to coordinate NGOs and its own activities. After termination of UNAVEM III in 1997, responsibility for UN demining activities was transferred to the UNDP, and the CMAO became the UN Demining Program-Angola (UNDPA). UNDPA continues to develop a comprehensive mine action plan modeled on operations in Mozambique, Afghanistan, and Cambodia. Technical assistance and support for INAROE are provided through UNDPA.

Mine Clearance

Until 1996, 100 percent of all demining in Angola was conducted by international NGOs. Since 1996, CMAO/UNDPA and INAROE have raised four regional headquarters and seven demining brigades (a

total of 16 manual clearance teams) to supplement this capability. Plans to expand the number of brigades to 18 by 1999 are dependent upon funding from the Angolan government and donor countries (footnote 18).

International NGOs and private organizations, such as the Norwegian Peoples Aid (NPA), Mines Advisory Group (MAG), Stiftung Menschen gegen Minen (MgM), The HALO Trust, Stiftung Sankt Barbara, Cap Anamur, and Mechem, provide an extensive mine clearance capability in Angola in support of UNDP and INAROE mine action programs. Not all NGO efforts are coordinated or funded through CMAO UNDPA or INAROE, and INAROE efforts at coordination have achieved only limited success, given the large number of international organizations and NGOs active in the country. The U.S. State Department is supporting the release of excess property for use by MgM to support clearing and reopening of previously mined roads and bridges. Some NGOs have been suspended from demining operations in Angola because of serious accidents and a lack of adequate supervision.

An extensive mine survey program is now being conducted by INAROE, NPA, and other NGOs to address the lack of reliable information on the location of landmines. Earlier attempts to use NGOs to conduct surveys suffered from lack of support from UNAVEM III and the government. Under the current program, initial surveys to identify mined or suspected mined areas have been completed for nine of 18 provinces, covering about 80 percent of the population. Substantial coverage has been achieved in five other provinces, and all surveys are planned to be completed by the end of 1998 (footnote 19).

Early demining plans called for the establishment of a Central Mine Action Training School (CMATS). After early startup problems-- internecine control disputes among UN entities, lost time and wasted resources, and the exclusion of certain prospective students because of factional differences between UNITA and the FAA-- CMATS completed training the first demining team in February 1996, and continues to produce fully trained deminers. CMATS was handed over to INAROE in February 1997, but it continues to receive support from the UNDP, notably technical advisors. It is envisioned that the complete transition of CMATS to INAROE will occur in 1999 (footnote 20). INAROE recently requested

that all NGOs provide current training and safety procedures to CMATS so that it may establish a countrywide standing operating procedure (SOP); NGOs are currently using SOPs adapted from other countries' operations(footnote 21).

Manual clearance rates in Angola at five square meters per day are much lower than in other countries (footnote 22). Some mechanical road clearance techniques have proven successful in areas being demined by MgM, but earlier attempts to use T-55 tanks with rollers by Cap Anamur failed in demining trials. The use of dogs to improve clearance rates has been limited. NPA and other NGOs are increasing their use of dogs, and INAROE will incorporate dogs in its training program at some point (footnote 23). To date, mine clearance efforts have identified 1,766 minefields, destroyed 10,000 landmines and 70,000 UXO, and cleared 2.4 square kilometers of high priority areas and 5,000 kilometers of roadway (footnote 24). There is no research and development (R&D) for demining technologies underway in the country.

Mine Awareness

Indigenous mine education programs are now in place, and an estimated 920,000 individuals have participated in mine awareness activities. Humanitarian organizations have long provided support. CARE (Greenfield Consultants), Medicins Sans Frontieres (MSF), and the Angolan Red Cross are supporting mine awareness training for the national staff and districts. UNHCR and UNICEF support mine awareness campaigns run by MAG, Handicap International (HI), and NPA. The U.S. Government's Agency for International Development (USAID) has provided funds specifically identified for demining activities in Angola. These funds also support CARE International, MAG, NPA, Save the Children-USA, Catholic Relief Services, and World Vision International efforts in various locations (footnote 25).

Victim Assistance

Existing Angolan facilities for rehabilitation of landmine victims are grossly inadequate. Victims are often afraid to leave the confines of rehabilitative centers until the security atmosphere improves. The Swedish and Dutch Red Cross, the ICRC, Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation (VVAF), Medico International, MSF, and Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit mbH (GTZ) have established or are

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supporting rehabilitative centers in Angola. These centers concentrate upon the production and fitting of prosthetic and orthopedic devices and employ and train indigenous workers. The centers also provide some psycho-social reintegration for the victims (footnote 26).

Other International Support

UNICEF and the WFP support mine awareness as part of their ongoing programs in food distribution and education. For example, the WFP has had a project of demining in support of feeder road rehabilitation through its implementing partner MgM. The UN's Voluntary Trust Fund (VTF) for Assistance in Mine Clearance, during the period 1994-1998, has either disbursed or committed $7.5 million for projects in Angola. The World Bank provided an evaluation of the effectiveness of the earlier mine action program and reported that much remained to be accomplished.

Outlook for the Future

Angola is slowly achieving progress in establishing a viable demining program. A countrywide demining organization has been established, survey and information collection efforts are underway, and the government is expanding upon the significant international clearance effort with its own demining units. It has also developed an extremely high level of mine awareness, but incident rates will probably continue to remain high until more progress is achieved in clearing farmland and returning it to productivity. Primary care facilities are in a state of disarray, leaving much of the rehabilitative effort to the international community. Angola needs to focus on completing minefield surveys, and improving mine clearance operations, particularly with respect to the road network and rebuilding its medical and rehabilitative services. The smooth transfer of all mine action activities to the government would facilitate these efforts.

Footnotes

6. CIA, 1997 World Fact Book, Angola, http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/ag.html, March 20, 1998, 1-3.

7. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Country Report: Angola,

http://www.un.org/depts/landmine/angola.htm, February 24, 1998, 8.

8. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Angola, op. cit., 7.

9. AMEMBASSY Luanda message, subject: Angola: Antipersonnel Landmines: Updating Hidden Killers, P161330Z March, 1998, 1.

10. The HALO Trust Donor Meeting, February 10, 1998.

11. U.S. Department of State, Landmine Database. Comprehensive Report: Angola, March 11, 1998, 11.

12. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Angola, op. cit., 7.

13. AMEMBASSY Luanda, op. cit., 2.

14. CIA, Angola, op. cit., 1-3.

15. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Angola, op. cit., 6.

16. ICRC, Antipersonnel Mines: An Overview, op. cit., 1.

17. U.S. Department of State Landmine Database. Angola, op. cit., 3.

18. AMEMBASSY Luanda, op. cit., 3.

19. Idem.

20. UNDHA, Angola. The Development of Indigenous Mine Capacities, February 1998, 25-28.

21. Ibid., 30.

22. Ibid., 33.

23. Human Rights Watch, Still Killing. Landmines in Southern Africa, May 1997, 33, 49-50.

24. AMEMBASSY Luanda, op. cit., 5.

25. Idem.

26. Human Rights Watch, op. cit., 32.

[End of Section]

Angola Country Map

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

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FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: MOZAMBIQUE

Mozambique occupies 801,590 square kilometers in southern Africa, lying between South Africa to the south, Zimbabwe and Zambia to the west, Tanzania to the north, and the Mozambique Channel to the east. It has a tropical to subtropical climate and a terrain that is mostly coastal lowlands, uplands in the center, high plateaus in the northwest, and mountains in the west. The country is administratively divided into 10 provinces, with Maputo, the capital, located along the coastline in the southern part of the country. One of Africa's poorest countries, Mozambique has failed to exploit the economic potential of its sizable agricultural, hydropower, and transportation resources. Industry operates at only 20-40 percent of capacity, and agricultural output is only 75 percent of its 1981 level. Only 4 percent of Mozambique's land is arable, and grain has to be imported. Recurrent drought in the hinterlands has resulted in increased migration of the population to urban and coastal areas with adverse environmental consequences. A mid-1997 estimate placed the population at 18,165,476 (footnote 40).

Landmine Problem

Mozambique suffered from 20 years of civil warfare until the 1992 peace accord was signed. Coincident with the signing of the accord, a UN Operation in Mozambique (ONUMOZ) force was established to oversee the demobilization of soldiers and manage humanitarian efforts. Although a mine clearance program was part of these efforts and the UN Office of Humanitarian Assistance Coordination (UNOHAC) was created, a lengthy period of inaction ensued. ONUMOZ was phased out in 1994 after completing its mission, and the former UN Department of Humanitarian Affairs (UNDHA), now the UNOHAC's Office of Humanitarian Assistance established an Accelerated Demining Program (UN/ADP) (footnote 41).

Characterization of the Problem

Until 1995, the most widely cited number of landmines in Mozambique had been the 1992 UN estimate of more than two million. A partial national survey, conducted by The HALO Trust in 1994 for the UNDHA, concluded that the actual number of landmines was likely to be significantly lower, and in June 199. the UN officially revised its estimate downward to one million (footnote 42). Some NGOs argue that the UN estimates are still highly exaggerated and should be lower. (The HALO Trust estimates 250,000 to 300,000 (footnotes 43, 44).) The lack of records regarding actual landmine locations renders it impossible to give a more precise figure, and no official Mozambican statistics exist. Various national and international forces operating in Mozambique during the past two decades have uncovered nearly 50 different types of landmines during clearance operations (footnote 45).

Location of Landmines

Minefields have been located in all provinces, but the most heavily mined regions are along the Zimbabwean border area on the west, Zambezia and Tete provinces in the center of the country, and Maputo and Inhambane provinces in the south (footnote 46).

Impact. More than 1.7 million refugees and 4 million IDPs have returned to their homelands since the signing of the peace accord in 1992. The UNHCR ended its resettlement efforts in 1996 (footnotes 47, 48, 49). Returnees have found that minefields were planted in defensive perimeters near military installations, bridges, and reservoirs; along access roads, railways, and power lines; and in areas to prevent population access to water points, schools, and clinics. Perhaps the most devastating use of landmines was their random placement in fields and along access paths to stop peasants from producing food. Landmines constitute one of the most immediate obstacles to redevelopment and affect the delivery of aid in many parts of the country.

Casualties

No comprehensive number of landmine casualties for all provinces exists, and there are wide variances (20 to 50 per month) reported. HI has collected data in most provinces as part of its mine awareness campaign, and now estimates that 45 to 50 casualties per month result from landmines. Some NGOs report that casualties are minimal in areas where clearing operations are conducted. Based on recorded accidents in eight of the 10 provinces, the number of casualties does show a reduction between 1996 and 1997 (footnote 50), but Mozambique must still contend with the statistic that nearly 10,000 people have become landmine victims since the signing of the peace accord.

Country Response

Mozambique was a case study in official UN and government inaction for the more than two years that ONUMOZ was deployed. Progress has slowly emerged since the UN/ADP was created and a mine action program based on the Afghanistan and Cambodia models was developed. In 1995, the Mozambican government created a National Mine Clearance Commission, now called the National Demining Commission (CND), to coordinate mine action activities. Reportedly, CND's role is being expanded to oversee all mine awareness, mine clearance, mine assessment and survey, and victim assistance programs. Despite a slow start, the UNDP and UNDHA recently agreed with the Mozambican government to support ongoing UN/ADP mine action programs through the year 2000 (footnote 51). The Mozambican Government is funding CND salaries with assistance from the UNDP. Mozambique is engaged and committed to the issues of humanitarian demining.

Organization for Demining

While the CND slowly moves to gain more control over all demining projects, existing programs are actually undertaken by a variety of NGOs and the UN/ADP. NPA and The HALO Trust, NGOs with

extensive demining experience in other countries, began their operations in the central and northern regions in 1993. They have effectively aligned mine clearance and mine awareness operations with the UN/ADP on a regional basis, with the UN/ADP responsible for demining programs in the southern provinces. The United States has also been working with the Government of Mozambique to establish mine awareness and training programs. The demining problem in Mozambique is being systematically addressed, but until CND has responsibility and authority over all mine action programs, there is no centralized coordination of projects, and NGO demining activities in the center and north of the country are relatively autonomous (footnote 52, 53). This relative autonomy of international NGOs and private organizations in Mozambique, such as NPA, The HALO Trust, Mechem, Lonhro/Mechem, Afrovita, Conseillers Internationale du Developement (CIDEV), MAG, Mine-Tech, GTZ, Special Clearance Services, and the Special Ghurka Service, are sometimes supported by UNHCR and UNICEF to conduct road clearance and rural mine clearance operations, but, for the most part, they are supported by their respective governments. Both NPA and The HALO Trust intend to reduce their expatriate level activities and turn mine clearance operations over to Mozambique managers in the near future (footnote 54, 55).

Mine Clearance

The UN/ADP has trained and deployed 10 demining platoons and four survey and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) teams since its inception in 1994. A Maputo-based headquarters is responsible for demining operations, with two provincially-based groups of five platoons making clearance in the south more effective (footnote 56). The NGOs contribute another seven mine clearance platoons for a total of 17 (footnote 57). The need to increase the number of clearance teams is evident, and this will be realized, in part, when the CND trains and deploys its first indigenous demining capability (a 200-man military demining battalion) in 1998 (footnote 58). Reported clearance rates in Mozambique are 600 square meters per day with dogs and 100 square meters per day for each deminer (footnote 59). As a result of all clearance activities by NGOs and UN/ADP to date, 1,759 minefields have been identified, 58,000

landmines/UXO destroyed, 28 square kilometers demined, and 6,000 kilometers of roadway cleared (footnote 60).

The UN/ADP-supported Central Mine Training Center (CMTC) began producing trained deminers in 1995. Clearance and safety procedures taught in the CMTC and by NGOs are essentially those that have worked successfully in other countries. Currently, each NGO trains and deploys its own mine survey and clearance teams. The U.S. Government also provides demining training in detection and clearance techniques in support of the UN/ADP and the government.

The lack of national-level landmine information was partially satisfied by The HALO Trust in 1994, working for UNOHAC, the predecessor of UN/ADP. Currently, NGOs and the UN/ADP continue to provide regional-level survey information in their respective areas. Beginning in 1998, the CND will oversee a new nationwide survey to verify the locations of minefields, their size, and mined road distances. All information on minefields, surveyed areas, and clearance activities is incorporated into a UN/ADP landmines database; CND will ultimately consolidate all demining information into its database.

NGOs and private organizations are actively testing new demining technology in Mozambique. An unprecedented level of commercial interest in operational mine clearance is occurring, but there is little effort to create a future national capacity (footnote 61). For example, The HALO Trust has developed a new Labor Intensive Road Verification procedure to speed manual clearing on minimal risk roads (footnote 62). The use of dogs in clearance operations in Mozambique was begun by RONCO, a private organization originally funded by USAID, until 1995. Upon termination of its contract, RONCO transferred the dog groups to NPA which continues to use them as part of area reduction operations. Mechem has used dogs to test air samples gathered from its mechanical road clearing means. Several other private organizations, such as Krohn Demining Enterprises and Mine-Tec, are testing different mechanical mine clearance techniques. In 1995 and 1996 the Krohn Mechanical Mine Clearance System was extensively tested in Mozambique, financed by the German Government. This system has been

employed since 1997 as part of the UN/ADP on the basis of a $1 million contribution from the German Government to the UN VTF for Assistance in Mine Clearance.

Mine Awareness

The UNHCR and NGOs conducted extensive mine awareness and education for returning refugees in neighboring countries. Surveys were conducted by Human Rights Watch, Physicians for Human Rights, and the VVAF in some provinces during different periods from 1993 to 1995 to assess levels of mine awareness. Results showed that a relatively low level of mine awareness existed among the returning refugees and IDPs, even when landmine casualties were high (footnote 63). In 1994, the UNHCR asked HI to undertake responsibility for the national coordination of mine awareness. HI has set up a voluntary partner system at the local level to integrate mine awareness with local government ministries and offices of the NGOs. Other NGOs, such as the ICRC, MSF, Norwegian Refugee Council, NPA, UNHCR, MgM, and the Mozambican Red Cross, provide mine education and awareness information in locations closest to their operations. Most efforts include some demining in nearby areas that provide basic social services for the local population. The U.S. Government has provided training aids, pamphlets, books, and cards to support these programs. UNICEF has supported a countrywide Landmine Awareness Campaign for several years, emphasizing broadcasting and print media to provide information in multiple dialects.

Victim Assistance

Mozambique suffers from a lack of adequate health and rehabilitative facilities, contributing to a high fatality rate among mine casualties. UNICEF has reported that nearly 60 percent of all victims die before they can receive appropriate first aid. In 1996, a comprehensive Community Information Epidemiological Technologies (CIET) International survey of four major landmine-affected countries reported that, in Mozambique, more than 25 percent of all households were affected by landmines, and more women than in any other country surveyed were victims (footnote 64). The government relies heavily upon NGOs to

meet its rehabilitative needs. The ICRC, VVAF, MSF, and Prosthetics and Orthotics Worldwide Education and Relief (POWER), an international NGO, operate rehabilitation and orthopedic centers in most provinces and are enhancing the local production capacity for prostheses by training local technicians in production and maintenance. The ICRC has transferred control of some prosthetic/orthopedic projects to indigenous health care organizations (footnote 65).

Other International Support

A variety of organizations, such as the European Union (EU) and the UK Overseas Development Agency, have supported NGOs or private organizations to conduct specific mine action programs. USAID and the War Victims Fund have provided funding for prosthetic assistance projects through POWER, and the UN's VTF for Assistance in Mine Clearance has disbursed or committed more than $5 million to Mozambique between 1994-1998.

Outlook for the Future

After a slow start and a number of problems along the way, Mozambique is now making some progress in establishing a viable demining program. A countrywide demining organization has been established, national-level minefield surveys and information collection efforts are underway, a credible mine awareness program exists, and a significant international humanitarian effort is supporting rehabilitation and relief efforts. Relatively autonomous operations being conducted in the north, central, and southern regions of the country continue to impede a cohesive effort. The government needs to focus on asserting a broader span of control over its demining efforts, concentrate on locating landmines in order to reclaim land for economic development, and place a higher priority on improving medical and rehabilitative services in order to reduce the casualty rate.

Footnotes

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41. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Demining Programme Report: Mozambique, http://www.un.org/depts/landmine/ program/mozambiq.htm, February 25, 1998, 1.

42. AMEMBASSY Maputo message, subject: Mozambique: Updating Hidden Killers, O171515Z March, 1998, 2.

43. The HALO Trust Donor Meeting, op. cit.

44. AMEMBASSY Maputo, op. cit., 6.

45. UNDHA, Landmine Database. Country Report: Mozambique, http://www.un.org/depts/landmine/country/ mozambiq.htm, February 25, 1998, 5.

46. U.S. Department of State, Landmine Database. Comprehensive Report: Mozambique, March 11, 1998, 41.

47. CIA, Mozambique, op. cit.

48. AMEMBASSY Maputo, op. cit., 2.

49. U.S. Department of State, Landmine Database. Mozambique, op. cit., 24.

50. AMEMBASSY Maputo, op. cit., 3.

51. Idem.

52. UNDHA, Mozambique. The Development of Indigenous Mine Capacities, February 1998, 40.

53. U.S. Department of State, Landmine Database. Mozambique, op. cit., 25.

54. UNDHA, Mozambique. The Development of Indigenous Mine Capacities, op. cit., 34-35.

55. The Halo Trust, Letter, op. cit.

56. UNDHA, Demining Programme Report: Mozambique, op. cit., 12-13.

57. U.S. Department of State, Landmine Database. Mozambique, op. cit., 2.

59. UNDHA, Mozambique. The Development of Indigenous Mine Capacities, op. cit., 33.

60. AMEMBASSY Maputo, op. cit., 6.

61. UNDHA, Mozambique. The Development of Indigenous Mine Capacities, op. cit., 37.

62. Human Rights Watch, op. cit., 96.

63. Idem.

64. Neil Andersson and Charlotte Carlson, "The Hard Facts Behind a Catastrophe," CIET International, http://www.un.org/depts/landmine/newletter /2_4/ socio.htm, February 27, 1998, 2-3.

65. ICRC, Assistance to Mine Victims: ICRC Physical Rehabilitation Programmes, http://www.icrc.org/unicc/icrnews.ndf, March 1, 1997.

[End of Section]

Country Map Mozambique

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

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FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan, a landlocked country in southwest Asia, occupies 647,500 square kilometers north and west of Pakistan, east of Iran, and south of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. It has an arid to semiarid climate with cold winters and hot summers and terrain that is mostly rugged mountains with plains in the north and southwest. The country is administratively organized into 32 provinces of 356 districts, with Kabul, the capital, located in the eastern part of the country. Afghanistan is extremely poor and highly dependent on farming and livestock raising; approximately 12 percent of the land is arable. A mid-1997 estimate placed the population at 23,738,085 (footnote 102).

Landmine Problem

Afghanistan has been besieged by occupation, foreign interference, and civil wars since early 1978. The Soviets and their puppet regimes laid countless landmines in Kabul from 1979 to 1992, and some of the feuding mujahidin factions have laid landmines since 1992. Most recently, the radical Islamist, predominantly Pakhtun movement, the Taliban, has gained control of about two-thirds of the country, having ousted the Rabbani regime from Kabul in September 1996. Sporadic fighting between the Taliban and its opponents-- a loose alliance of predominantly Tajik, Uzbek, and Shi'a Hazara factions-- in the northern one-third of the country has made mine clearance difficult in that region.

Characterization of the Problem

The current UN figure for the number of landmines in Afghanistan, based on earlier estimates, is 10 million, but the original source of this estimate cannot be verified and the actual number may never be determined. Recently, a UN study reported that the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance to Afghanistan (UNOCHA) has reduced its estimate to 5-7 million (footnote 103). Some NGOs, based on actual clearance experience in heavily mined areas, claim that official estimates are still too high and should be lowered to less than a million (an estimate by The HALO Trust in 1997 was

620,000) (footnote 104). Roughly 50 different types of antipersonnel and antitank mines have been identified during clearance operations (footnote 105).

Location of Landmines

The most heavily mined areas are the provinces bordering Iran and Pakistan (the western, southern, and eastern parts of the country); it has been estimated that 162 of the 356 districts in Afghanistan are mine-affected. Security belts of landmines exist around major cities and at airports, government installations, and power stations. Grazing lands, waterways, schools, paths, villages, and cities are infested with mostly antipersonnel mines. Extensive mining in Kabul took place after residents fled to safe havens outside the capital (footnote 106).

Impact

The majority of minefields in Afghanistan have been found in agricultural and grazing lands and in or near irrigation systems (footnote 107). Landmines are responsible for depopulating vast tracts of the countryside, affecting crop harvests, and interfering with the transportation of food supplies into the cities. Roughly 50 percent of Afghan villages and an estimated 25 percent of paved roads have been destroyed or ruined. During the conflict, one-third of the population fled the country, with Pakistan and Iran sheltering a combined peak of more than 6 million refugees. Recent field surveys conducted by the VVAF and the UNHCR reported that landmines were the primary reason for refugees leaving Afghanistan and not returning home (footnote 108). While more than half of the refugees from the war against the Soviets have returned to Afghanistan, other, smaller waves of refugees left Afghanistan--particularly Kabul-- after the mujahidin came to power in Kabul in 1992 and after the Taliban captured the city in 1996. Approximately 1.4 million registered Afghan refugees remain in Iran and 1 million in Pakistan, with Pakistan claiming an additional half million unregistered Afghan refugees in the country. GDP has fallen substantially since 1982 because of the loss of labor and capital and the disruption of trade

and transport. The UNDP now rates Afghanistan as 171 out of 173 countries in terms of greatest poverty and least development (footnotes 109, 110).

Casualties

According to ICRC statistics, the most dangerous activities to rural populations are tilling fields, herding livestock, and foraging for wood and food (footnote 111). Overall national figures on the rate of landmine-related injuries and death are not available, but casualty estimates indicate that landmines and UXO cause an estimated 10 to 12 civilian casualties per day (footnote 112). Recent MSF and ICRC surveys suggest that this figure is too low, since many victims never get to treatment centers because of a lack of transportation, significant distances, or impassable roads, and thus are not reported. Victims who do arrive at a hospital often receive inappropriate treatment (footnote 113). Nevertheless, the data have shown an overall decline in accidents since 1994 as a result of the combination of clearance of high priority areas and an increased emphasis on mine awareness education (footnote 114).

Country Response

No Afghan government office is specifically responsible for demining activities at the current time. However, the demining program is the oldest and most mature of all UN demining programs, and mine clearance programs in other countries have used the protocols, curricula, and management tools pioneered in Afghanistan. The program has achieved these distinctions in the absence of a national government (footnote 115).

Organization for Demining

The UN established UNOCHA in 1988 and subsequently created its Mine Clearance Program (UNMCP), now called the Mine Action Program for Afghanistan (MAPA), to govern and manage all humanitarian demining activities. The MAPA also supports R&D efforts for detecting and clearing landmines. The UNOCHA MAC, located in Islamabad, coordinates indigenous efforts and those of international NGOs

throughout Afghanistan (footnote 116).The UNOCHA 1997 budget included $18 million for mine awareness, mine clearance, survey, marking, and training and will grow to $23.5 million in 1998 (footnote 117). In spite of the lack of government oversight, the mine action program in Afghanistan has attained remarkable success.

Mine Clearance

In 1996, MAPA consisted of 50 manual mine clearance teams, one mechanical clearance team, three battle area clearance teams, two EOD teams, 20 minefield survey teams, 25 mine awareness teams, 10 mine dog groups, 20 mine dog sets, and six monitoring teams. The 1998 mine action plan calls for training nine manual clearance teams in battle area clearance, raising two new EOD teams, a small expansion in mine dog capacity, an increase in manual clearance teams, and an increased mechanical clearance capability. Field operations are supported by 19 field medical units and 19 field office sites (footnote 118).

Mechanical clearance means, such as flails, continue to be used in some areas, and armor-plated earth movers, coupled with screens for sifting dirt and gravel away from landmines, have improved clearance rates in Kabul. Dog teams have proven 140 to 900 percent more effective than manual clearance teams, depending on the type of terrain (footnote 119). As of the end of November 1997, MAPA had cleared 130 square kilometers of high-priority, mine-contaminated areas and 122 square kilometers of former battlefield areas contaminated by UXO (footnote 120), destroying more than 686,813 devices (landmines and UXO). MAPA surveys indicate that more than 725 square kilometers remain contaminated by landmines, of which 325 square kilometers have been identified as high priority for clearance (footnote 121). Strict adherence to SOPs, protocols, and specialized equipment has been effective in improving clearance rates and safety among clearance teams.

All mine action programs are operated by several national and international NGOs. The Afghan Technical Consultants (ATC), the Demining Agency for Afghanistan (DAFA), and the Organization for Mine Clearance and Afghan Rehabilitation (OMAR) are national NGOs that have provided a clearance capability in Kabul and in the heavily mined provinces since 1990. The Mine Clearance Planning Agency (MCPA), also a national NGO, conducts all surveys, mapping, and identification of minefields throughout Afghanistan and maintains the centralized database. Mine detection and clearance training is run by UNOCHA, but The HALO Trust operates clearance teams and training programs independent of UNOCHA. With funding from USAID, RONCO, an international demining company, developed the original dog and dog-handler program that has since become one of the principal national NGOs, the Mine Detection Dog Center (MDC). The MDC, currently funded principally by the German Federal Foreign Office via UNOCHA, plans to increase its mine dog groups from 15 to 17 and mine dog sets from 20 to 29 (footnote 122). MDC's spectacular success in pioneering the use of mine-sniffing dogs has elicited requests from mine action programs in Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, and Mozambique, among other countries.

Mine Awareness

The MAPA-coordinated mine awareness program continues to emphasize a community-based approach: mine awareness briefings have been given to more than 3.2 million people inside Afghanistan and in refugee camps outside the country since the inception of the program (footnote 123). UNOCHA initially funded mine awareness training and, through the IRC, conducted training in the refugee camps prior to the inhabitants returning to their villages in Afghanistan. Currently, mine awareness training and education are conducted by a host of national and international NGOs and agencies. One Afghan NGO, the Afghan Mine Awareness Agency (AMAA), focuses exclusively on mine awareness training. The Afghan Red Crescent Society, HI, MSF, and Save the Children-USA provide mine awareness training and education as part of their programs. In addition, the Iranian Refugee Relief Group of Ansar and the Pakistan Red Crescent Society conduct mine awareness programs in refugee centers along their borders

with Afghanistan (footnote 124). An effective mine awareness program exists in much of the country, but ongoing conflicts in some regions and limitations by the Taliban authorities on direct instruction to women have made the provision of training to some key segments of the victim population more difficult.

Victim Assistance

Medical treatment, rehabilitation, prosthetic devices, and education are provided through numerous international and national NGOs. The ICRC provides training of indigenous medical personnel in rehabilitation and medical services in several regional centers. HI, Save the Children, and MSF all provide additional treatment and rehabilitative services. Four ICRC rehabilitation centers, with a labor force of more than 50 percent disabled indigenous workers, provide prosthetic devices for hospitals in the country. Organizations such as CIET International have provided community surveys (where the conflict allowed) to better understand the impact and provision of basic services at the village and district levels (footnote 125).

Other International Involvement

U.S. and international organizations often provide funding for multiple programs. Between 1994-1998, the UN's VTF for Assistance in Mine Clearance has either disbursed or committed $1 million for programs in Afghanistan. Over time, organizations such as the U.S. Department of State, USAID, World Health Organization (WHO), WFP, and the EU have been instrumental in providing funding for mine awareness, education, and training programs. UNICEF has been particularly involved in providing new educational material for mine awareness programs taught in schools. WFP and USAID are working on mine awareness, as an adjunct to their delivery of provisions and aid to villages and districts, to improve safety and awareness of the dangers of landmines (footnote 126).

Outlook for the Future

Afghanistan's demining program exists despite the absence of central governmental direction. In fact, the program has been so successful that other countries use its mine clearance, mine awareness, and victim assistance components as models. Casualty rates should continue to decrease in response to effective countrywide mine awareness efforts and as more and more productive land is returned to the inhabitants. Afghanistan needs to focus on establishing a strong national infrastructure to support and extend the substantial international demining programs now in effect.

Footnotes

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103. UNDHA, Afghanistan. The Development of Indigenous Mine Action Capacities, February 1998, 9.

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107. AMEMBASSY Islamabad message, subject: Afghanistan: Antipersonnel Landmines: Updating Hidden Killers, P201227Z March 1998, 1.

108. Idem.

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119. UNDHA, Afghanistan. The Development of Indigenous Mine Action Capacities, op. cit., 28.

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125. Neil Andersson et al., op. cit., 717-721.

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[End of Section]

Country Map Afganistan

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: CAMBODIA

Cambodia, located in Southeast Asia, borders the Gulf of Thailand and the countries of Thailand, Laos, and Vietnam. Based on a 1997 estimate, Cambodia's population is 11,163,861. Its landmass is 176,520 square kilometers, with terrain that is mostly low, flat plains with mountains in the southwest and north (footnote 127).

Landmine Problem

Cambodia's many conflicts and the indiscriminate use of landmines during those periods have inflicted suffering mainly on the rural poor who inhabit the land in and around mine-infested areas. As primarily, but not exclusively, the result of landmines, Cambodia has one of the two highest proportions of amputees in the world, one out of every 245 individuals (footnote 128). Compounding the problem is a lack of adequate health and rehabilitation services for the injured and the disabled.

Between 1979 and 1997, 35 percent of mine incidents resulted in death, the balance in traumatic injury. Adults between the ages of 19 and 55 years of age were disproportionately represented among the victims-- 86 percent of mine incidents occurred in this age group. About 90 percent of the victims were male. Death or injury due to landmines has removed many Cambodians from the work force during the period of their greatest potential social contribution (footnote 129).

Characterization of the Problem

As a result of more than two decades of war, it is estimated that Cambodia has 4 to 6 million landmines in the ground. Further details in terms of the number of landmines and UXO are not available, but of the 17,000 landmines destroyed by the Cambodia Mine Action Center (CMAC) in 1997, 99 percent were antipersonnel mines consisting of eight different types, and just over 1 percent were antitank mines of two different types. UXO destroyed from 1993 through 1997 has included mortar rounds, rockets, artillery

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rounds, small caliber munitions, bomblets, fuses, rifle grenades, recoilless gun rounds, pyrotechnics, and bombs (footnote 130). Of the 3,000 square kilometers suspected of being mined (about 1.7 percent of the land area), 2,499 square kilometers were registered in the CMAC database as of October 1997 (footnote 131). As of February 1998, verification efforts on two-thirds of that area have confirmed 549 square kilometers mined and 1,118 square kilometers free of landmines (footnote 132).

Location of Landmines

In Cambodia's 23 provinces, the majority of the landmines/UXO are found in seven of the west, northwest, and northern provinces. Two central/southern provinces contain large areas of suspected minefields, but insurgent activity, which did not end until November 1996, has thus far prevented verification. Battlefield UXO is found country-wide, and aerial-delivered ordnance is found mainly in the eastern and central provinces (footnote 133).

Impact

Clearing land for resettlement is the number one priority of Cambodia's civilian demining organization, the CMAC. CMAC's technical advisors are in the process of gathering data and completing an analysis of cleared land in order to determine to what extent this objective has been met. Achieving a clearer overall idea of how much progress has been made awaits systematic National Level I, II, and III Surveys. Planning for such a survey is underway in mid-1998. Procedures are in place for regional CMAC demining units to work with local governors and district chiefs to hand over land to repatriated refugees and IDPs. CMAC estimates that there are approximately 60,000 IDPs still awaiting resettlement (footnote 134).

In recent times, Cambodia's economy has been slowly recovering. Government leaders are moving toward restoring fiscal and monetary discipline and have established good working relationships with international financial institutions. However, rural Cambodia, where 90 percent of the population live,

remains mired in poverty. The almost total lack of basic infrastructure in the countryside will hinder development and will contribute to a growing imbalance in growth between urban and rural areas over the near term (footnote 135).

Casualties

Landmines/UXO maim or kill 100 people per month in Cambodia. This marked a significant drop from 1996, when an average of 230 mine incidents per month were reported. Records, although incomplete, indicate that during 1979-1997, 38,786 people were injured by landmines/UXO and, of those, 13,586 died. Of the 1,358 casualties in 1997, 19 percent died and 32 percent required amputations or had foot injuries (footnote 136).

Country Response

Cambodia has an ongoing and active demining program, and operations are coordinated by CMAC.

Organization for Demining

As of June 1998, the CMAC staff consisted of 2,800 Cambodians plus 50 foreign technical advisors and six UN staff members. The staff is organized into 61 demining platoons of 29 men each, 23 mine marking teams, 20 EOD teams, and 12 mobile mine awareness teams deployed in four demining units covering nine provinces. In 1998, CMAC intends to expand from 61 to 75 demining platoons (footnote 137).

CMAC coordinates three demining organizations, The HALO Trust, MAG, and CIDEV. These three organizations add almost 800 additional deminers to the total in Cambodia and provide welcome assistance. As of April 1, 1998, The HALO Trust had deployed 10 40-man manual teams and four armored vegetation cutters (footnote 138).

Mine Clearance

CMAC was established to conduct, and to train Cambodians to conduct, large-scale demining activities, eventually to be independent of international technical assistance. CMAC's goal is to conduct mine clearance in areas with the greatest humanitarian return in four descending priorities: (1) land for resettlement or settled land with high casualty rates; (2) land for agriculture; (3) land for community development; and (4) land for reconstruction and infrastructure development in the preceding priorities. To complement the goal and these priorities, CMAC has developed a five year organizational and operational strategy for the period 1996-2000. This strategy identifies two major objectives in order to approach the goal: (1) achieve a measurable impact on the mine/UXO problem in Cambodia through clearing, mine awareness, and EOD operations, with humanitarian and reconstruction goals always in view, and (2) promote full integration of demining/EOD into national development and reconstruction plans through CMAC's role as national coordinator for demining/EOD (footnote 139).

Through February 1998, 83,000 landmines and 444,000 pieces of UXO had been removed or destroyed (footnote 140). As of April 1998, more than 3,100 minefields had been identified and more than 73 square kilometers cleared (footnote 141). These results include the demining efforts of CMAC, The HALO Trust, MAG, CIDEV, and the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces (RCAF). It should be noted that CMAC has also verified that more than 1,000 square kilometers of land suspected of being mined are free of landmines. The HALO Trust's portion of the cleared area includes land cleared for road building, resettlement, schools, fish ponds, and bridge building, and the RCAF's portion is on and along 20 kilometers of highway in one of the western provinces (footnote 142).

To help its demining teams, CMAC intends to deploy mine dogs in 1998 to rapidly identify and reduce the area to be cleared. CMAC is also investigating mechanical mine clearance. In May 1998, operational evaluation of the Finnish Mine Clearance Vehicle, RA-140 DS, was underway in Kampot. Finland provided two of the vehicles and a six-man technical team for evaluation and possible operational

deployment. Sweden is looking at Cambodia as the likely testing ground for its promising remote-controlled MV 103C mine-clearing vehicle. If the project is approved, the prototype will arrive in 1998 for a six-month trial period. CMAC is also planning to conduct field trials in 1998 on a German mechanical mine clearance vehicle, RHINO, financed principally by the EU (footnote 143). Other organizations and nations assisting in mine clearance efforts include the Cambodian Red Cross, UNICEF, HI, MAG, The HALO Trust, CIDEV, Sweden and its air force, NPA, and the RCAF (footnote 144).

Mine Awareness

CMAC's Mine Awareness Program is currently focused at both the national and local levels. The program includes 12 Mine Awareness Teams which provide educational workshops to villages throughout the country to educate people living in mine/UXO-affected areas about the danger of landmines/UXO, how to avoid accidents, and what to do and to whom to report if a mine/UXO is found or suspected. The National Mine Awareness Campaign consists of media advertising, a billboard campaign, coordination of Mine Awareness Day, and a monthly mine awareness working group meeting among the various mine awareness service providers (footnote 145). Other organizations assisting in the Mine Awareness Program include the RCAF, the U.S. armed forces, and Save the Children.

Victim Assistance

The ICRC continues to help Cambodia's landmine victims through its work in the national blood bank system and the production of prostheses. For the year 1995, 438 new patients were outfitted, and a total of 1,070 prostheses, 47 orthoses, and 1,818 pairs of crutches were manufactured by the ICRC in Cambodia. ICRC facilities also host non-ICRC workshops on knee joints, alignment systems, and orthotic side bars (footnote 146). HI is providing victim assistance through its Orthopedic/Prosthetics Program, Physiotherapy Program, Socio-Economic Rehabilitation Program, and mine incident data gathering effort. HI's other related programs are the Spinal Cord Injury Treatment Center and sports training and activities for the handicapped. Other organizations and nations assisting in victim assistance include the Survivor's

Assistance Cambodian Trust, Veterans International, USAID's War Victims Fund, the American Red Cross, the Government of Japan, and the Harvard Mental Health Program (footnote 147).

The WFP has an on-going dialogue with the CMAC regarding collaboration. There are three areas where the WFP intends to collaborate at the country level:

•Protracted Emergency Target area populations (long-term IDPs and former returnees who have not been resettled): WFP/Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) collaboration with CMAC in identifying the most needy families for settlement on recently demined agricultural land; assistance to families for land clearance of recently demined agricultural land; and for construction of other community infrastructure (roads, ponds, wells, etc.) through food for work. A concerted effort to assist these long-term vulnerable groups to resettle is one of the focus areas of the new Protracted Relief Operation (PRO). A baseline survey of these groups will be conducted in 1998.

•Reconciliation areas: The former Khmer Rouge-held areas, including Phnom Malai, Pailin, and Anlong Veng. The WFP will collaborate with Cambodian Resettlement and Reintegration Program (CARERE), CMAC, and other partners in these areas. Initial land clearance and food-for-work activities have already begun in Phnom Malai and Phnom Vour (Kampot).

•Collaboration with the CMAC and UNICEF to maintain minefield markings. The CMAC has proposed this collaboration, but details have yet to be worked out. The CMAC's proposal is that vulnerable families be selected to maintain minefield markings and be reimbursed with a food ration on a monthly basis.

Other International Involvement

Since 1994, CMAC has documented $35.47 million in gross cash contributions to the UNDP Trust Fund from Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, the Holy See, Japan, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Direct cash contributions total $2.49 million, and the principal donor nations and organizations are the Cambodian Government, the

Cambodian Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, Germany, and Sweden (footnote 148). Other assistance has included the following:

•Since 1994, the United States has provided more than $16 million in assistance in the form of cash, credits, and equipment to NGOs, including all assistance to the CMAC as well as to the RCAF. In 1998, the United States is planning to contribute $2.45 million for victim assistance and between $2 to $2.5 million for equipment support (footnote 149).

•Through 1997, the EU has contributed $3.57 million to the CMAC earmarked for the operations of 16 demining platoons which the EU supports; the 1998 EU budget is $2.15 million.

•Since 1993, Germany has contributed up to $900,000 annually to the CMAC, built a new training center, equipped EOD-teams, and supplied explosives.

•Japan has pledged $3 million for in-kind assistance purchases for 1998-1999.

•Sweden, Norway, and Australia provide bilateral assistance to CMAC, but current funding levels are not available (footnote 150).

•The annual value of technical advisor assistance is estimated by the UNDP at $10 million (footnote 151).

•CMAC's annual budget for 1998-99 is about $12 million.

•Military technical assistance is provided by Australia (two engineers); Belgium (two EOD technicians); Canada (seven engineers); the Netherlands (two EOD technicians and one communications specialist); New Zealand (one engineer and one logistics specialist) (footnote 152).

Outlook for the Future

Through CMAC and assistance from NGOs, international organizations, and other countries, Cambodia has many fewer landmines in the ground today than in years past, although a significant quantity of landmines and UXO still remain. Progress is being made toward clearing the residual. To sustain this progress, Cambodia will continue to need the support it now receives from in-country organizations and agencies and the nations providing financial support. Without this help, it will be more difficult and take

considerably longer until Cambodia can meet its goals of resettlement and economic and social redevelopment.

Footnotes

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130. Idem.

131. AMEMBASSY Phnom Penh message, subject: Antipersonnel Landmines: Updating Hidden Killers Publication - Additional Response for Cambodia, R011059Z April 1998, 2.

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133. Idem.

134. Ibid., 3.

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136. AMEMBASSY Phnom Penh, Response, op. cit., 1.

137. Ibid., 5, 13.

138. The HALO Trust, Letter to SAIC, op. cit., 7.

139. AMEMBASSSY Phnom Penh, Response, op. cit., 7.

140. Ibid., 15.

141. AMEMBASSY Phnom Penh, Additional Response, op. cit., 2.

142. AMEMBASSY Phnom Penh, Response, op. cit., 15.

143. Ibid., 13.

144. Ibid., 9.

145. Ibid., 8.

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147. AMEMBASSY Phnom Penh, Response, op. cit., 9.

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149. Ibid., 12.

150. bid., 6.

151. Ibid., 5.

152. Idem.

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Country map Cambodia

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

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FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: CROATIA

Croatia is located in southeastern Europe between Bosnia-Herzegovina to the southeast, Serbia to the east, Hungary to the north, and Slovenia to the northwest. The total area is 56,538 square kilometers, and the geography ranges from low mountains near the Adriatic coast on the west to flat plains along the Hungarian border. The total population of 4,664,710 consists of 78 percent Croat, 12 percent Serb, and 10 percent other ethnic groups. The Republic of Croatia was the second most industrialized and prosperous republic in Yugoslavia, but the economic infrastructure -- bridges, factories, and power lines -- was severely damaged during the war. Reconstruction of key elements of the infrastructure has begun, in order to return Croatia to its pre-war economic prosperity (footnote 171).

Landmine Problem

Croatia's war of independence from Yugoslavia along with heavy mining of the country began in 1991. Landmines were laid primarily as defensive measures to prevent the Yugoslav Army from advancing; nearly one-quarter of the terrain has either a landmine or UXO problem. The government is struggling to meet the enormous financial burden of both post-war reconstruction and demining.

Characterization of the Problem

There are more than 400,000 landmines and 3,000 tons of UXO in Croatia, scattered over approximately 11,910 square kilometers (footnote 172). More than 72,000 antitank mines and 121,116 antipersonnel mines have been identified (footnote 173). Previous landmine estimates were as high as several million, but these estimates were based upon pre-war stockpiles and are not supported by surveys (footnote 174). Fewer than 10 different types of antitank and antipersonnel mines have been discovered, the majority manufactured in the former Yugoslavia.

Mine clearance is a difficult task, because landmines were laid without consistent markings or mapping; the soil contains large amounts of scrap metal; the landmines contain little metal content; and many landmines have been laid near areas that were damaged during the war. Thus, the infested areas are littered with debris, which must first be cleared; the debris itself may contain landmines and UXO. In addition, deminers do not have access to modern equipment.

Location of Landmines

The areas of heaviest contamination are consistent with the confrontation lines during the war. The most affected areas are eastern and western Slavonia and the former Serb-controlled Krajina. More than one-half of the total infested area is in Slavonia. The areas on the coast, north of Split, are also heavily mined. Landmines have been found in areas of economic importance, such as along railroad lines and pipelines and near utility stations.

Impact

The presence of landmines has had a harsh impact on the economy. The traditional rural household is based on self-sufficient food production, and many fields must be cleared before they can be cultivated (footnote 175). According to the Ministry of Reconstruction, agriculture has suffered losses of more than $200 million since 1991 (footnote 176); the agricultural areas of eastern Slavonia and Lika have been most affected. Heavily mined forests in western Slavonia have caused millions in lost revenues each year, and many factories near the confrontation lines were destroyed or damaged by landmines (footnote 177). The government is faced with a dilemma: non-functioning factories, uncultivated land, and other damaged infrastructure will cost the country more financially than demining operations, yet reconstruction cannot take place until the land has been cleared of landmines.

More than 100,000 Croatians, both ethnic Croat and ethnic Serb, were displaced during the war and more than 300,000 refugees are living in other countries. These people cannot return

until the country has been rebuilt and homes and jobs are available for them; the policy of the government is not to encourage them to return to areas that are mine-infested. However, lack of an alternative often forces them back to their former communities.

Casualties

Between 1992 and 1998, there were 125 deaths and 552 injuries attributed to landmines. The incident rate decreased from 1994-1996, but rose slightly in 1997. The casualty rate may continue to increase, as refugees and IDPs return home to regions that were heavily mined during the war.

Country Response

When the fighting subsided, the government recognized the need for mine removal as part of its post-war reconstruction; it attempted to resolve the landmine problem using its own assets and finances. No major action was taken until 1996 when the government passed the Law on Demining, which was designed to develop a system for the implementation of demining activities. Under this law, the Commission for Issues of Mine Clearance was established under the Ministry of the Interior to coordinate national mine-related issues, and a government-owned company, MUNGOS, was formed from the Civilian Defense Force to serve as the national demining agency. MUNGOS was the only agency authorized to conduct demining activities in the country; there was no open contracting, and any international assistance had to be channeled through MUNGOS (footnote 178).

A new demining law was passed in February 1998 to allow more international involvement in demining. This law allows organizations that meet the criteria of the International Standards for Humanitarian Mine Clearance Operations to conduct demining activities in the country. Under the new law, the Advisory Committee replaced the Commission for Issues and is now the government body tasked with mine clearance. The Croatian Mine Action Center was

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created with overall responsibility for all aspects of demining. MUNGOS is being privatized but remains the largest demining company in Croatia.

Organization for Demining

The UN established a MAC in 1996 to assist the government in its continued development of a national demining capacity. The MAC does not operate mine action programs, but it does provide advice to the government on demining activities and maintains a database of mine-related information. In addition to the central office in Zagreb, there are regional offices in Knin, Vukovar, Daruvar, and Karlovac. The UN and the government signed a Memorandum of Agreement in the summer of 1997 that provides for the merging of operations. The merger was completed in June 1998; the government will now retain control of operations, and the UN will remain in an advisory role.

Mine Clearance

MUNGOS employs almost 200 deminers and, in the interim until the government assumes full control of operations, continues to coordinate all clearance efforts. The police have been trained in EOD and are tasked with UXO removal; they currently have nearly 100 personnel assigned to clearance. The Army Center for Demining also has more than 600 soldiers working in demining activities. MUNGOS has contracts with several smaller agencies, including the Serbian TNT and DESK, which are conducting mine clearance in eastern Slavonia. To date, 6,000 minefields have been identified, but this may represent only about half the actual number. Mine clearance efforts have resulted in the removal of more than 8,000 landmines and 4-6 tons of UXO, clearing approximately 30 square kilometers of land (footnote 179).

Mine Awareness

The ICRC and UNICEF are the most prominent organizations conducting mine awareness programs in Croatia. UNICEF began its program in late 1991 and, since then, has been supporting the Ministry of Education in mine awareness. The ICRC began its program in March 1996; it is conducted using volunteers from the Croatian Red Cross. The two organizations have spread mine awareness through campaigns using posters, leaflets, TV, and radio spots, stressing local awareness and traveling into communities in mine-affected areas, and conducting seminars on the specific dangers in those regions; these campaigns seem to have been successful (footnote 180). Mine awareness programs had previously been conducted in refugee camps, but the government has terminated them.

Victim Assistance

Croatia has an extensive and generous medical and social system to care for landmine victims.

International Involvement

Up to this point, the government has financed essentially all demining activities with some exceptions; Germany, Norway, Switzerland, and several others nations have provided some aid, and the UN VTF for Assistance in Mine Clearance has disbursed or committed more than $4 million to Croatia between 1994 and 1998. The old demining law was incompatible with the World Bank's policy requiring international bids for demining financed by a World Bank loan, but the new law allowing more international participation accommodates such initiatives as the Bank's $34 million Emergency Project for Transportation and Demining. As a result, international organizations are currently bidding on contracts to clear landmines from major infrastructure; the first contracts are for the demining of 20 bridges and more than 70 kilometers of railway. The United States is exploring the possibility of developing assistance programs to provide training and technical assistance.

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Outlook for the Future

Croatia's young, but active, demining program has seen steady progress toward the building of a national demining capacity. Control of demining operations has now passed from the UN to the government which, along with MUNGOS, the police, and the army, has begun to clear landmines and UXO. The greatest obstacle to demining has been a lack of funding, but the government's adoption of the new, more open, demining law has been a positive step toward an infusion of international funds. To reduce casualties, mine awareness programs must target refugees, who remain the highest risk for landmine accidents. Future efforts should also include the provision of proper equipment for deminers and new technology to discriminate between landmines and battlefield debris. With increased support from the international community, Croatia should be able to clear mine-infested areas, a further step toward rebuilding its infrastructure.

Footnotes

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Country Map Croatia

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

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FROM: HIDDEN KILLERS 1998: THE GLOBAL LANDMINE CRISIS

COUNTRY PROFILE: BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia-Herzegovina, a land of mountains and valleys with a total area of 51,233 square kilometers, is located on the Balkan Peninsula in eastern Europe, bordered by Croatia, Serbia, and Montenegro. The population of 3,222,584 comprises three ethnic groups: Serb (40 percent), Muslim (38 percent), and Croat (22 percent). The current political structure, created by the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, comprises two entities: the Muslim-Croat Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina (the Federation), and the Serb-led Republika Srpska (the Republika). The national government is an emerging democracy based on proportional representation. Among the old Yugoslav Federation, only the Republic of Macedonia was poorer than Bosnia-Herzegovina. The recent civil war has left the economy in ruin; industrial production has fallen as much as 90 percent since 1990, and output has fallen to below $1,000 per capita (footnote 153).

Landmine Problem

The daily threat of landmines is a constant reminder of the five-year-long civil war that broke apart Yugoslavia. The inter-ethnic strife that began in 1992 resulted in heavy mining of vast areas of the country including economic and social centers; civilians became the target of landmines in "ethnic cleansing" campaigns. Today, Bosnia-Herzegovina has the most severe landmine problem in Europe.

Characterization of the Problem

Some 600,000-1 million landmines and a yet largely undetermined amount of UXO are estimated to infest some 300 square kilometers of land (footnote 154). The Mine Database in Sarajevo has records of 18,086 minefields, but the total number is believed to be closer to 30,000. Of those identified, approximately 12,000 have less than 10 landmines per field, and approximately 300 have more than 100 landmines per field (footnote 155). A total of 295,769 landmines has been identified, of which 83 percent are antipersonnel mines and 17 percent are antitank mines (footnote 156). Nearly 30 different types of

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landmines have been found, but as many as 85 types may have been deployed during the war (footnote 157). The majority of minefields are unmarked, and those that were marked were often identified by carvings on trees, branches, or red tape, which are not easily distinguishable means and do not last over time. Army maps that did exist were handed over to the Implementation Force (IFOR) after the signing of the peace agreement, but some areas were mined and re-mined during the war, making many maps worthless (footnote 158). Distrust among former warring factions further hinders the coordination of demining efforts in disputed regions. There have been recent cases of private citizens removing landmines near their homes and emplacing them elsewhere in areas they deem advantageous to their protection.

Location of Landmines

The areas of heaviest landmine concentrations are consistent with the regions where ethnic conflict occurred. Concentrations of minefields are found in the Zone of Separation (between the Federation and the Republika), which was the front line during the civil war; within the Zone, the Brcko area, southwest to the Zavidoci and Sarajevo, was the most heavily mined. The UN MAC estimates that there may still be 34,000 landmines in the Sarajevo area alone (footnote 159). Minefields are also found in combat zones and areas occupied by military units during the war, which are scattered throughout the country. Every canton in the Federation is contaminated by landmines; Tuxla-Podrinje, Central Bosnia, and Zenica-Doboj are the most affected, containing 41 percent of the known minefields. The Republika is less mine-affected (footnote 160). Road systems, power plants, bridges, dams, and other parts of the infrastructure were all heavily mined.

Impact

Under the terms of the Dayton Peace Accords, NATO was charged only with military demining of the areas of the country in which it needed to operate, such as roads, airfields and military bases. The former warring factions were charged with clearing landmines from the rest of the country in the first 45 days

that the agreement was in force. However, little progress was made in the initial months because of winter weather, lack of funding and training, and an overall lack of motivation on the part of the factions' armed forces (footnote 161). The effect of the residual landmines as a result of heavy mining during the conflicts on Bosnia-Herzegovina's post-war recovery has been staggering. The revitalization of the industrial and agricultural sectors is dependent upon mine clearance.

Many factories, homes, and schools that were mined remain abandoned. Food production has fallen, and the government has been forced to rely on international assistance to feed its people. In the Federation, about 100 square kilometers of agricultural land are unusable because of landmines. The impact is even greater on the individual farmer, who has only a small farm with a large portion possibly infested by landmines, leaving him unable to support his family.

The male is the primary wage-earner for the family in Bosnia, and he is also the most common landmine victim. Victims who require amputation find employment scarce; those who could have returned to work often find that their jobs have been filled during their long rehabilitation process. There are no state disability benefits to supplement lost income; thus, one landmine injury can affect the standard of living for an entire family.

In 1997, more than 600,000 refugees still remained outside the country; landmines have impeded the return of many. Those who do return often find that their land has become a minefield. These returning refugees have little mine awareness, and, having been away from their communities, they do not know the location of minefields. Recently, landmines have been used in some cases to block refugees from returning.

Casualties

The most common landmine victim in Bosnia-Herzegovina is a male farmer who has returned to work his land following the war. Civilians represent 80 percent of landmine casualties overall; of these 15-20 percent are children (footnote 162). From January 1, 1996 to March 24, 1998, there were 1,085 reported

casualties (244 dead and 841 injured); these statistics indicate a general decline in the number of casualties (footnote 163). There were seasonal increases during the months of March, April, and May, which are probably a result of increased agricultural activity. The actual incidence rate is debated. The ICRC reported that, in the six months following the Accords, there were 50 landmine-related casualties each month, but that, by early 1998, the rate had fallen to 30-35 per month (footnote 164); the UN, however, reports that the rate may be as high as 90 incidents per month (footnote 165). The death rate among landmine victims is lower than in most landmine-affected countries, attributable to the availability of automobiles and the existence of an extensive road system to transport casualties to medical treatment. Although the casualty rate may have fallen, it is possible that it will rise in the near future as refugees continue to return to their pre-war lands.

Country Response

After the Dayton signing, the government recognized the seriousness of the landmine problem. The IFOR, ICRC, and several other non-governmental agencies began to assist the government in assessing the problem.

Organization for Demining

At the state level, the government established two bodies for demining: the Bosnia-Herzegovina Commission for Demining (BHCD) and the Board of Donors. BHCD is the focal point of demining activities, while the Board of Donors comprises the major international participants in the mine action program. The Board is co-chaired by the Senior Military Advisor to the Office of the High Representative (OHR) and the Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, and has representation from OHR, the EU, the Stabilization Force (SFOR), the UN, the World Bank, and the embassies of the United States and Norway. The Board advises the BHCD on mine clearance issues.

In 1996 the UN established the MAC in Sarejevo, with the first $8.5 million provided by the United States to establish it and implement its initial programs. The role of the MAC is to coordinate demining efforts in Bosnia-Herzegovina between the international community and government authorities. The MAC maintains a minefield database; helps coordinate a national mine awareness campaign; has trained, equipped and deployed deminers; and funds a local demining NGO in the Bihac region. Its headquarters is in Sarajevo, and it has regional offices in Mostar, Banja Luka, Tuzla, and Bihac, as well as a small office in Pale. The regional offices collect data at the local level and serve as the coordinators for all demining activities in their regions. The responsibility for the MAC is being transferred from the UN to the BHCD in 1998, and the UN MAC will become the B-H MAC symbolizing the country taking on more responsibility for mine clearance by using its own armed forces. A MAC will also be established in each of the two political entities.

Mine Clearance

The mine clearance effort consists of four distinct components: military, government, NGOs, and international civilian contractors. The military employs 450 soldiers for clearance under SFOR supervision; the government office of civil protection has an EOD capability and conducts some clearance; and two NGOs, NPA and HELP, have also conducted clearance operations. Five private contractors employ deminers in Bosnia-Herzegovina: Mine-Tec, ABC, DSL, BAC TEC, and RONCO. In the Canton of Tusla-Drina in November 1997, the mechanical mine clearing machine, "Minebreaker 2000," was successfully tested by the German company, Flensburger Fahrzeugbau, with German Government funds.

In the short time that mine clearance activities have been underway, 2,000 of the estimated 30,000 minefields have been cleared and 49,010 landmines have been removed. However, it is estimated that this represents only 1 percent of the affected land. The MAC estimates that, with greater help from the international community, Bosnia-Herzegovina's landmine problem could be eradicated in as few as

five years. With increased funding and more advanced technology, clearing could be as rapid as 70 square kilometers per year (footnote 166). Without a concerted effort, SFOR estimates that it would take another 30 years to clear Bosnia-Herzegovina of landmines at current mine clearance rates (footnote 167). To ensure that the momentum for mine clearance is maintained, the United States trained 250 Bosnian deminers in 1996 and will conduct another train-the-trainer program in 1998.

Mine Awareness

The level of mine awareness varies by region. People who reside in more urban areas, such as Sarajevo, have more knowledge of the potential dangers of landmines than those in rural areas. The UN MAC conducts some mine awareness programs but, more importantly, attempts to coordinate a national campaign among all the organizations conducting mine awareness. The ICRC and UNICEF operate the two major mine awareness programs, but there are currently more than 30 agencies involved. By means of an extensive media campaign, including posters, leaflets, brochures, and TV and radio spots, the programs have targeted communities to educate the people about the specific dangers in their local areas. The programs have brought mine awareness into the classroom, which is an effective channel to reach children, given the high rate of school attendance. The U.S. Government, Time-Warner/DC Comics, and UNICEF have distributed a special edition of a Superman Comic Book devoted to mine awareness. Since 1997, the WFP has been involved in mine awareness training as part of the program support to small-scale rehabilitation projects. The WFP has supported a local NGO, MEDEX, with part of their food requirements for organizing training camps for children. Some 3,000 children aged 8 to 18 have already participated in the week-long training camps on mine awareness. MEDEX plans to retrain 2,500 children by the end of 1998, which WFP will again support. Adults have been more difficult to reach than children, because they have been found to be indifferent toward landmines. A 1995 VVAF survey interviewed 873 households and found that one out of three had received some information about

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landmines (footnote 168), but a lack of coordination among programs has led to some confusion and contradictory messages (footnote 169).

Victim Assistance

Prior to the war, Bosnia-Herzegovina had a well-developed health care system, but the war damaged much of it. Every municipality has a health center that provides basic treatment and arranges transportation to hospitals for the more seriously injured. There are surgical hospitals in both the Federation and the Republika that have the skills to perform amputations, but they have very limited resources and are in need of more training for the staff, renovations, and more equipment. The extensive injuries sustained in landmine accidents require the application of an inordinate amount of resources at the expense of non-landmine-related patients.

Overall, there seems to be an adequate supply of good prostheses for survivors who require amputation, and limb-fitting centers are planned which would provide for the lifelong needs of amputees. The financial contribution by the victim varies by hospital; some are required to pay nothing. HI, Landmines Survivors Network (LSN), and several other NGOs have begun programs to offer jobs for the disabled. WHO is conducting a media campaign to educate the populace about disabilities.

Other International Involvement

Bosnia-Herzegovina is dependent upon funding from the international community to finance mine clearance programs. The World Bank's $67 million Emergency Landmines Clearance Project began many of the initial demining efforts in the country. The EU, the United States, the World Bank, Italy, the UN (footnote 170), and other donors financed the project, which was implemented by joint ventures between the government and local and international demining companies. The EU has contributed $6.7 million to support the capabilities of the civil protection sector and has granted $720,000 for several demining activities, including training, clearance, and UXO disposal. The work has been done through contracts

awarded to commercial companies, such as the German NGO HELP. In addition to the grant to the World Bank project, the United States allocated $15 million for a demining program which was carried out by RONCO, that concluded in 1997. The SFOR has also funded mine clearance and is building information centers, targeted at refugees, throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Outlook for the Future

Bosnia-Herzegovina's demining program continues to improve as the military, government, civilian, and international sectors all lend their support. Success in clearing minefields has been evident and will continue to focus on the areas where refugees and farmers are returning and business is attempting to resume. The challenge, however, remains formidable. In order to maintain the momentum, increased international community support is needed. Mine awareness programs have been effective and have caused casualty rates to fall. However, in order to sustain this downward trend, programs must target returning refugees who have very limited mine awareness, especially adults because of their apathy toward landmines. Improvements to the basic health care system, as a backdrop to victim assistance, are essential. With continued international cooperation and support, the demining program should continue to progress.

Footnotes

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165. UN General Assembly, Assistance in Mine Clearance, op. cit., 16.

166. International Crisis Group, "Ridding Bosnia of Landmines," http://www.into-crisis-group.org/projects/ bosnia/report/bh25rep1.htm, March 24, 1998.

167. Starr, op. cit.

168. ICRC, The Silent Menace, op. cit.

169. UNDHA, op. cit.

170. The UN VTF for Assistance in Mine Clearance disbursed or committed approximately $10 million between 1994-1998 to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Country Map Bosnia-Herzegovina

Source: CIA 1999 World Fact Book, http://www.odci.gov/cia

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Data Acquisition Chart for Analyzing Land Mine Assistance Issue

	Economic Issues	Political Issues	Social/Human Development Issues
Angola			
Mozambique			
Afghanistan			
Cambodia			
Croatia			
Bosnia-Herzegovina			

Antipersonnel Landmine Producers

Burma	Iraq	Turkey
China	North Korea	United States
Cuba	South Korea	Vietnam
Egypt	Pakistan	former Yugoslavia
India	Russia	
Iran	Singapore	

Total: 16 producers

Former Antipersonnel Landmine Producers

Albania	Finland(treaty non-signatory)	Poland
Argentina	France	Portugal
Austria	Germany	Romania
Belgium	Greece	South Africa
Bosnia	Hungary	Spain
Brazil	Israel (treaty non-signatory)	Sweden
Bulgaria	Italy	Switzerland
Canada	Japan	Taiwan(treaty non-signatory)
Chile	Netherlands	Thailand
Columbia	Nicaragua	Thailand
Croatia	Norway	United Kingdom
Czech Republic	Peru	Zimbabwe
Denmark	Philippines	

Total: 38 former producers

Others who have been identified a. producers by the US government and others, but who deny current or past production : Belarus, Cyprus, Namibia, Ukraine, Venezuela.

Former Exporters of Antipersonnel Mines

Landmine Monitor has identified 34 countries that have exported antipersonnel mines in the past. All of these, with the exception of Iraq, have halted exports either by virtue of having signed the Mine Ban Treaty (22), instituted a unilateral ban (1) or moratorium (4), or made a declarative statements of "no export" (6). It is, of course, possible that some of these nations continue to export APMs despite their public policy against it, but Landmine Monitor is not aware of any significant exports if antipersonnel mines in recent years.

Mine Ban Treaty Signatories

Argentina	Canada	Hungary	Spain
Austria	Chile	Italy	Sweden
Belgium	Czech Republic	Poland	United Kingdom
Bosnia	France	Portugal	Zimbabwe
Brazil	Germany	Romania	
Bulgaria	Greece	South Africa	

Note: Many treaty signatories already had unilateral export bans or moratoria in place.

Non Signatories with Ban on Exports

United States

Non Signatories with Moratorium on Exports

Israel	Russia (non – detectable, non- self-destruct only)
Pakistan	Singapore

Non Signatories with Declaration of "No Export"

Iran	China (non – detectable, non- self-destruct only)
Vietnam	Cuba
former Yugoslavia	Egypt

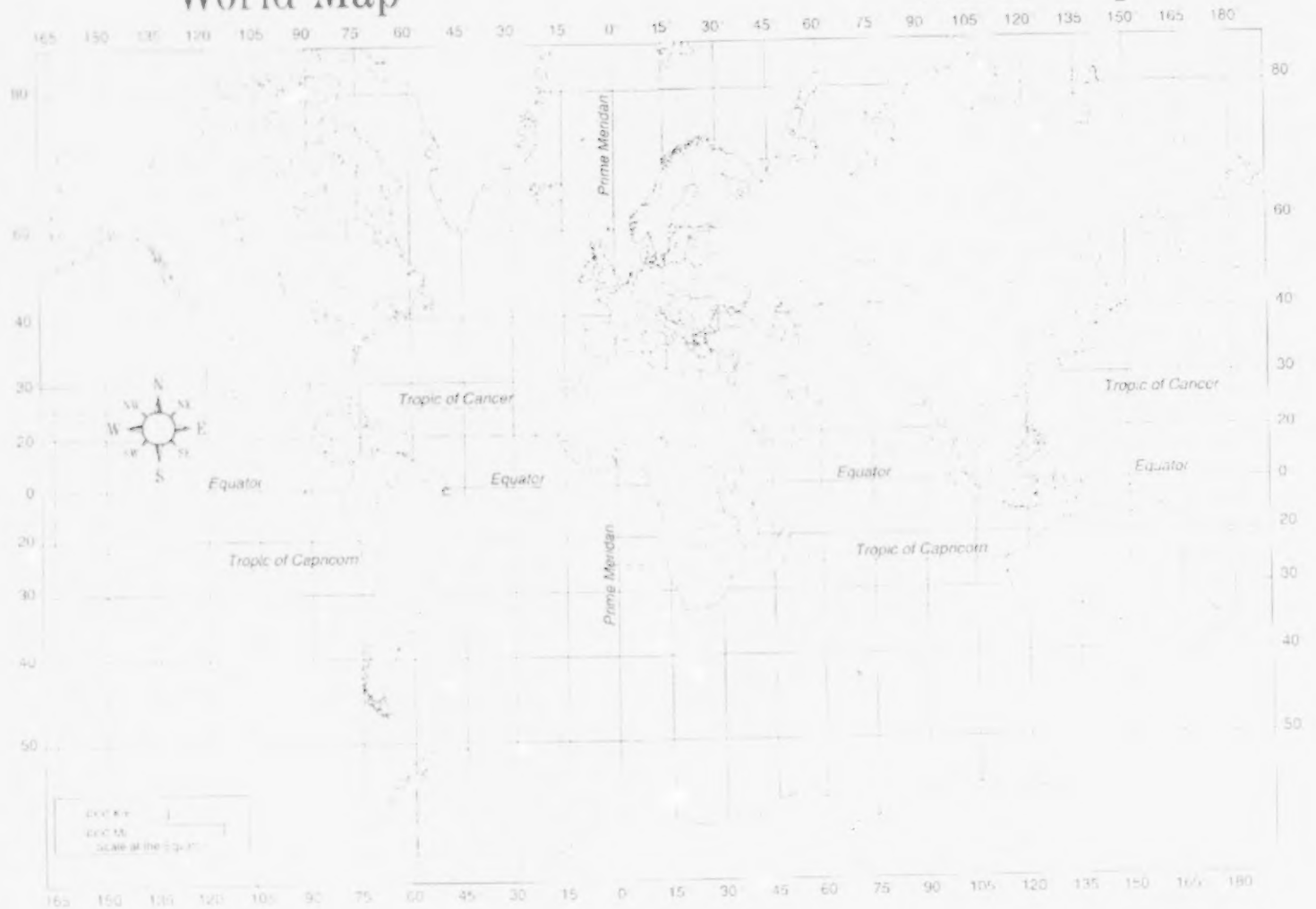
Known Exporters without Moratorium or Declarations : Iraq

Known Producers without Moratorium or Declarations: Burma, North Korea, and Iraq

Producers (past and current) Not Known to Export: Albania, Burma, Columbia, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Japan, India, North Korea, South Korea, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Uganda.

Source: Landmine Monitor Report 1998

World Map



World Map

Prime Meridian
Tropic of Cancer
Equator
Tropic of Capricorn

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Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, 18 September 1997

Preamble

The States Parties,

Determined to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, that kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do their utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to face the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do their utmost in providing assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration of mine victims,

Recognizing that a total ban of anti-personnel mines would also be an important confidence-building measure,

Welcoming the adoption of the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, and calling for the early ratification of this Protocol by all States which have not yet done so,

Welcoming also United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/45 S of 10 December 1996 urging all States to pursue vigorously an effective, legally-binding international agreement to ban the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel landmines,

Welcoming furthermore the measures taken over the past years, both unilaterally and multilaterally, aiming at prohibiting, restricting or suspending the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Stressing the role of public conscience in furthering the principles of humanity as evidenced by the call for a total ban of anti-personnel mines and recognizing the efforts to that end undertaken by the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and numerous other non-governmental organizations around the world,

Recalling the Ottawa Declaration of 5 October 1996 and the Brussels Declaration of 27 June 1997 urging the international community to negotiate an international and legally binding agreement prohibiting the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to this Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization in all relevant fora including, inter alia, the United Nations, the Conference on Disarmament, regional organizations, and groupings, and review conferences of the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have

Indiscriminate Effects,

Basing themselves on the principle of international humanitarian law that the right of the parties to an armed conflict to choose methods or means of warfare is not unlimited, on the principle that prohibits the employment in armed conflicts of weapons, projectiles and materials and methods of warfare of a nature to cause superfluous injury or unnecessary suffering and on the principle that a distinction must be made between civilians and combatants,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1
General obligations

1. Each State Party undertakes never under any circumstances:

a) To use anti-personnel mines;

b) To develop, produce, otherwise acquire, stockpile, retain or transfer to anyone, directly or indirectly, anti-personnel mines;

c) To assist, encourage or induce, in any way, anyone to engage in any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention.

2. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of this Convention.

Article 2
Definitions

1. "Anti-personnel mine" means a mine designed to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person and that will incapacitate, injure or kill one or more persons. Mines designed to be detonated by the presence, proximity or contact of a vehicle as opposed to a person, that are equipped with anti-handling devices, are not considered anti-personnel mines as a result of being so equipped.

2. "Mine" means a munition designed to be placed under, on or near the ground or other surface area and to be exploded by the presence, proximity or contact of a person or a vehicle.

3. "Anti-handling device" means a device intended to protect a mine and which is part of, linked to, attached to or placed under the mine and which activates when an attempt is made to tamper with or otherwise intentionally disturb the mine.

4. "Transfer" involves, in addition to the physical movement of anti-personnel mines into or from national territory, the transfer of title to and control over the mines, but does not involve the transfer of territory containing emplaced anti-personnel mines.

5. "Mined area" means an area which is dangerous due to the presence or suspected presence of mines.

Article 3
Exceptions

1. Notwithstanding the general obligations under Article 1, the retention or transfer of a number of anti-personnel mines for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance, or mine destruction techniques is permitted. The amount of such mines shall not exceed the minimum number absolutely necessary for the above-mentioned purposes.

2. The transfer of anti-personnel mines for the purpose of destruction is permitted.

Article 4
Destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines

Except as provided for in Article 3, each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines it owns or possesses, or that are under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than four years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

Article 5
Destruction of anti-personnel mines in mined areas

1. Each State Party undertakes to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control, as soon as possible but not later than ten years after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party.

2. Each State Party shall make every effort to identify all areas under its jurisdiction or control in which anti-personnel mines are known or suspected to be emplaced and shall ensure as soon as possible that all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under its jurisdiction or control are perimeter-marked, monitored and protected by fencing or other means, to ensure the effective exclusion of civilians, until all anti-personnel mines contained therein have been destroyed. The marking shall at least be to the standards set out in the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices, as amended on 3 May 1996, annexed to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects.

3. If a State Party believes that it will be unable to destroy or ensure the destruction of all anti-personnel mines referred to in paragraph 1 within that time period, it may submit a request to a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference for an extension of the deadline for completing the destruction of such anti-personnel mines, for a period of up to ten years.

4. Each request shall contain:

a) The duration of the proposed extension;

b) A detailed explanation of the reasons for the proposed extension, including:

(i) The preparation and status of work conducted under national demining programs;

(ii) The financial and technical means available to the State Party for the destruction of all the anti-personnel mines; and

(iii) Circumstances which impede the ability of the State Party to destroy all the anti-personnel mines in mined areas;

c) The humanitarian, social, economic, and environmental implications of the extension; and

d) Any other information relevant to the request for the proposed extension.

5. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Review Conference shall, taking into consideration the factors contained in paragraph 4, assess the request and decide by a majority of votes of States Parties present and voting whether to grant the request for an extension period.

6. Such an extension may be renewed upon the submission of a new request in accordance with paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of this Article. In requesting a further extension period a State Party shall submit relevant additional information on what has been undertaken in the previous extension period pursuant to this Article.

Article 6
International cooperation and assistance

1. In fulfilling its obligations under this Convention each State Party has the right to seek and receive assistance, where feasible, from other States Parties to the extent possible.

2. Each State Party undertakes to facilitate and shall have the right to participate in the fullest possible exchange of equipment, material and scientific and technological information concerning the implementation of this Convention. The States Parties shall not impose undue restrictions on the provision of mine clearance equipment and related technological information for humanitarian purposes.

3. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the care and rehabilitation, and social and economic reintegration, of mine victims and for mine awareness programs. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international, regional or national organizations or institutions, the International Committee of the Red Cross, national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies and their International Federation, non-governmental organizations, or on a bilateral basis.

4. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for mine clearance and related activities. Such assistance may be provided, inter alia, through the United Nations system, international or regional organizations or institutions, non-governmental organizations or institutions, or on a bilateral basis, or by contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Clearance, or other regional funds that deal with demining.

5. Each State Party in a position to do so shall provide assistance for the destruction of stockpiled anti-personnel mines.

6. Each State Party undertakes to provide information to the database on mine clearance established within the United Nations system, especially information concerning various means and technologies of mine clearance, and lists of experts, expert agencies or national points of contact on mine clearance.

7. States Parties may request the United Nations, regional organizations, other States Parties or other competent intergovernmental or non-governmental fora to assist its authorities in the elaboration of a national demining program to determine, inter alia:

a) The extent and scope of the anti-personnel mine problem;

b) The financial, technological and human resources that are required for the implementation of the program;

c) The estimated number of years necessary to destroy all anti-personnel mines in mined areas under the jurisdiction or control of the concerned State Party;

d) Mine awareness activities to reduce the incidence of mine-related injuries or deaths;

e) Assistance to mine victims;

f) The relationship between the Government of the concerned State Party and the relevant governmental, inter-governmental or non-governmental entities that will work in the implementation of the program.

8. Each State Party giving and receiving assistance under the provisions of this Article shall cooperate with a view to ensuring the full and prompt implementation of agreed assistance programs.

Article 7
Transparency measures

1. Each State Party shall report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations as soon as practicable, and in any event not later than 180 days after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party on:

a) The national implementation measures referred to in Article 9;

b) The total of all stockpiled anti-personnel mines owned or possessed by it, or under its jurisdiction or control, to include a breakdown of the type, quantity and, if possible, lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine stockpiled;

c) To the extent possible, the location of all mined areas that contain, or are suspected to contain, anti-personnel mines under its jurisdiction or control, to include as much detail as possible regarding the type and quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine in each mined area and when they were emplaced;

d) The types, quantities and, if possible, lot numbers of all anti-personnel mines retained or transferred for the development of and training in mine detection, mine clearance or mine destruction techniques, or transferred for the purpose of destruction, as well as the institutions authorized by a State Party to retain or transfer anti-personnel mines, in accordance with Article 3;

e) The status of programs for the conversion or de-commissioning of anti-personnel mine production facilities;

f) The status of programs for the destruction of anti-personnel mines in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, including details of the methods which will be used in destruction, the location of all destruction sites and the applicable safety and environmental standards to be observed;

g) The types and quantities of all anti-personnel mines destroyed after the entry into force of this Convention for that State Party, to include a breakdown of the quantity of each type of anti-personnel mine destroyed, in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, respectively, along with, if possible, the lot numbers of each type of anti-personnel mine in the case of destruction in accordance with Article 4;

h) The technical characteristics of each type of anti-personnel mine produced, to the extent known, and those currently owned or possessed by a State Party, giving, where reasonably possible, such categories of information as may facilitate identification and clearance of anti-personnel mines; at a minimum, this information shall include the dimensions, fusing, explosive content, metallic content, colour photographs and other information which may facilitate mine clearance; and

i) The measures taken to provide an immediate and effective warning to the population in relation to all areas identified under paragraph 2 of Article 5.

2. The information provided in accordance with this Article shall be updated by the States Parties annually, covering the last calendar year, and reported to the Secretary-General of the United Nations not later than 30 April of each year.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit all such reports received to the States Parties.

Article 8
Facilitation and clarification of compliance

1. The States Parties agree to consult and cooperate with each other regarding the implementation of the provisions of this Convention, and to work together in a spirit of cooperation to facilitate compliance by States Parties with their obligations under this Convention. 2. If one or more States Parties wish to clarify and seek to resolve questions relating to compliance with the provisions of this Convention by another State Party, it may submit, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, a Request for Clarification of that matter to that State Party. Such a request shall be accompanied by all appropriate information. Each State Party shall refrain from unfounded Requests for Clarification, care being taken to avoid abuse. A State Party that receives a Request for Clarification shall provide, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, within 28 days to the requesting State Party all information which would assist in clarifying this matter.

3. If the requesting State Party does not receive a response through the Secretary-General of the United Nations within that time period, or deems the response to the Request for Clarification to be unsatisfactory, it may submit the matter through the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the next Meeting of the States Parties. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit the submission, accompanied by all appropriate information pertaining to the Request for Clarification, to all States Parties. All such information shall be presented to the requested State Party which shall have the right to respond.

4. Pending the convening of any meeting of the States Parties, any of the States Parties concerned may request the Secretary-General of the United Nations to exercise his or her good offices to facilitate the clarification requested.

5. The requesting State Party may propose through the Secretary-General of the United Nations the convening of a Special Meeting of the States Parties to consider the matter. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall thereupon communicate this proposal and all information submitted by the States Parties concerned, to all States Parties with a request that they indicate whether they favour a Special Meeting of the States Parties, for the purpose of considering the matter. In the event that within 14 days from the date of such communication, at least one-third of the States Parties favours such a Special Meeting, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene this Special Meeting of the States Parties within a further 14 days. A quorum for this Meeting shall consist of a majority of States Parties.

6. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties, as the case may be, shall first determine whether to consider the matter further, taking into account all information submitted by the States Parties concerned. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach a decision by consensus. If despite all efforts to that end no agreement has been reached, it shall take this decision by a majority of States Parties present and voting.

7. All States Parties shall cooperate fully with the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties in the fulfilment of its review of the matter, including any fact-finding missions that are authorized in accordance with paragraph 8.

8. If further clarification is required, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall authorize a fact-finding mission and decide on its mandate by a majority of States Parties present and voting. At any time the requested State Party may invite a fact-finding mission to its territory. Such a mission shall take place without a decision by a Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties to authorize such a mission. The mission, consisting of up to 9 experts, designated and approved in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10, may collect additional information on the spot or in other places directly related to the alleged compliance issue under the jurisdiction or control of the requested State Party.

9. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall prepare and update a list of the names, nationalities and other relevant data of qualified experts provided by States Parties and communicate it to all States Parties. Any expert included on this list shall be regarded as designated for all fact-finding missions unless a State Party declares its non-acceptance in writing. In the event of non-acceptance, the expert shall not participate in fact-finding missions on the territory or any other place under the jurisdiction or control of the objecting State Party, if the non-acceptance was declared prior to the appointment of the expert to such missions.

10. Upon receiving a request from the Meeting of the States Parties or a Special Meeting of the States Parties, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall, after consultations with the requested State Party, appoint the members of the mission, including its leader. Nationals of States Parties requesting the fact-finding mission or directly affected by it shall not be appointed to the mission. The members of the fact-finding mission shall enjoy privileges and immunities under Article VI of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations, adopted on 13 February 1946.

11. Upon at least 72 hours notice, the members of the fact-finding mission shall arrive in the territory of the requested State Party at the earliest opportunity. The requested State Party shall take the necessary administrative measures to receive, transport and accommodate the mission, and shall be responsible for ensuring the security of the mission to the maximum extent possible while they are on territory under its control.

12. Without prejudice to the sovereignty of the requested State Party, the fact-finding mission may bring into the territory of the requested State Party the necessary equipment which shall be used exclusively for gathering information on the alleged compliance issue. Prior to its arrival, the mission will advise the requested State Party of the equipment that it intends to utilize in the course of its fact-finding mission.

13. The requested State Party shall make all efforts to ensure that the fact-finding mission is given the opportunity to speak with all relevant persons who may be able to provide information related to the alleged compliance issue.

14. The requested State Party shall grant access for the fact-finding mission to all areas and installations under its control where facts relevant to the compliance issue could be expected to be

collected. This shall be subject to any arrangements that the requested State Party considers necessary for:

a) The protection of sensitive equipment, information and areas;

b) The protection of any constitutional obligations the requested State Party may have with regard to proprietary rights, searches and seizures, or other constitutional rights; or

c) The physical protection and safety of the members of the fact-finding mission.

In the event that the requested State Party makes such arrangements, it shall make every reasonable effort to demonstrate through alternative means its compliance with this Convention.

15. The fact-finding mission may remain in the territory of the State Party concerned for no more than 14 days, and at any particular site no more than 7 days, unless otherwise agreed.

16. All information provided in confidence and not related to the subject matter of the fact-finding mission shall be treated on a confidential basis.

17. The fact-finding mission shall report, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties the results of its findings.

18. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall consider all relevant information, including the report submitted by the fact-finding mission, and may request the requested State Party to take measures to address the compliance issue within a specified period of time. The requested State Party shall report on all measures taken in response to this request.

19. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may suggest to the States Parties concerned ways and means to further clarify or resolve the matter under consideration, including the initiation of appropriate procedures in conformity with international law. In circumstances where the issue at hand is determined to be due to circumstances beyond the control of the requested State Party, the Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties may recommend appropriate measures, including the use of cooperative measures referred to in Article 6.

20. The Meeting of the States Parties or the Special Meeting of the States Parties shall make every effort to reach its decisions referred to in paragraphs 18 and 19 by consensus, otherwise by a two-thirds majority of States Parties present and voting.

Article 9
National implementation measures

Each State Party shall take all appropriate legal, administrative and other measures, including the imposition of penal sanctions, to prevent and suppress any activity prohibited to a State Party under this Convention undertaken by persons or on territory under its jurisdiction or control.

Article 10
Settlement of disputes

1. The States Parties shall consult and cooperate with each other to settle any dispute that may arise with regard to the application or the interpretation of this Convention. Each State Party may bring any such dispute before the Meeting of the States Parties.

2. The Meeting of the States Parties may contribute to the settlement of the dispute by whatever means it deems appropriate, including offering its good offices, calling upon the States parties to a dispute to start the settlement procedure of their choice and recommending a time-limit for any agreed procedure.

3. This Article is without prejudice to the provisions of this Convention on facilitation and clarification of compliance.

Article 11
Meetings of the States Parties

1. The States Parties shall meet regularly in order to consider any matter with regard to the application or implementation of this Convention, including:

a) The operation and status of this Convention;

b) Matters arising from the reports submitted under the provisions of this Convention;

c) International cooperation and assistance in accordance with Article 6;

d) The development of technologies to clear anti-personnel mines;

e) Submissions of States Parties under Article 8; and

f) Decisions relating to submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5.

2. The First Meeting of the States Parties shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations within one year after the entry into force of this Convention. The subsequent meetings shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations annually until the first Review Conference.

3. Under the conditions set out in Article 8, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene a Special Meeting of the States Parties.

4. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend these meetings as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

Article 12
Review Conferences

1. A Review Conference shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations five years after the entry into force of this Convention. Further Review Conferences shall be convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations if so requested by one or more States Parties, provided that the interval between Review Conferences shall in no case be less than five years. All States Parties to this Convention shall be invited to each Review Conference.

2. The purpose of the Review Conference shall be:

a) To review the operation and status of this Convention;

b) To consider the need for and the interval between further Meetings of the States Parties referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 11;

c) To take decisions on submissions of States Parties as provided for in Article 5; and

d) To adopt, if necessary, in its final report conclusions related to the implementation of this Convention.

3. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the

International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Review Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

Article 13
Amendments

1. At any time after the entry into force of this Convention any State Party may propose amendments to this Convention. Any proposal for an amendment shall be communicated to the Depositary, who shall circulate it to all States Parties and shall seek their views on whether an Amendment Conference should be convened to consider the proposal. If a majority of the States Parties notify the Depositary no later than 30 days after its circulation that they support further consideration of the proposal, the Depositary shall convene an Amendment Conference to which all States Parties shall be invited.

2. States not parties to this Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations may be invited to attend each Amendment Conference as observers in accordance with the agreed Rules of Procedure.

3. The Amendment Conference shall be held immediately following a Meeting of the States Parties or a Review Conference unless a majority of the States Parties request that it be held earlier.

4. Any amendment to this Convention shall be adopted by a majority of two-thirds of the States Parties present and voting at the Amendment Conference. The Depositary shall communicate any amendment so adopted to the States Parties.

5. An amendment to this Convention shall enter into force for all States Parties to this Convention which have accepted it, upon the deposit with the Depositary of instruments of acceptance by a majority of States Parties. Thereafter it shall enter into force for any remaining State Party on the date of deposit of its instrument of acceptance.

Article 14
Costs

1. The costs of the Meetings of the States Parties, the Special Meetings of the States Parties, the Review Conferences and the Amendment Conferences shall be borne by the States Parties and States not parties to this Convention participating therein, in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

2. The costs incurred by the Secretary-General of the United Nations under Articles 7 and 8 and the costs of any fact-finding mission shall be borne by the States Parties in accordance with the United Nations scale of assessment adjusted appropriately.

Article 15
Signature

This Convention, done at Oslo, Norway, on 18 September 1997, shall be open for signature at Ottawa, Canada, by all States from 3 December 1997 until 4 December 1997, and at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 5 December 1997 until its entry into force.

Article 16
Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession

1. This Convention is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval of the Signatories.

2. It shall be open for accession by any State which has not signed the Convention.

3. The instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be deposited with the Depositary.

Article 17
Entry into force

1. This Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the month in which the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession has been deposited.

2. For any State which deposits its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession after the date of the deposit of the 40th instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, this Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the sixth month after the date on which that State has deposited its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession.

Article 18
Provisional application

Any State may, at the time of its ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, declare that it will apply provisionally paragraph 1 of Article 1 of this Convention pending its entry into force.

Article 19
Reservations

The Articles of this Convention shall not be subject to reservations.

Article 20
Duration and withdrawal

1. This Convention shall be of unlimited duration.

2. Each State Party shall, in exercising its national sovereignty, have the right to withdraw from this Convention. It shall give notice of such withdrawal to all other States Parties, to the Depositary and to the United Nations Security Council. Such instrument of withdrawal shall include a full explanation of the reasons motivating this withdrawal.

3. Such withdrawal shall only take effect six months after the receipt of the instrument of withdrawal by the Depositary. If, however, on the expiry of that six- month period, the withdrawing State Party is engaged in an armed conflict, the withdrawal shall not take effect before the end of the armed conflict.

4. The withdrawal of a State Party from this Convention shall not in any way affect the duty of States to continue fulfilling the obligations assumed under any relevant rules of international law.

Article 21
Depositary

The Secretary-General of the United Nations is hereby designated as the Depositary of this Convention.

Article 22
Authentic texts

The original of this Convention, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Source:
ihl.nsf/WebFULL?openview ihl.nsf/WebFULL?openview ihl.nsf/WebART?openview
ihl.nsf/WebART?openview

From: *To Walk the Earth in Safety: The United States Commitment to Humanitarian Demining*

OVERVIEW OF U.S. HUMANITARIAN DEMINING PROGRAMS

To Walk the Earth in Safety: The United States Commitment to Humanitarian Demining informs the reader about the U.S. commitment to rid the world by the year 2010 of anti-personnel landmines (APL) which pose a threat to civilians. The most recent U.S. Government survey identified 93 countries affected with either an APL, or an unexploded ordnance (UXO) problem, or both. Although the estimates regarding the number of mines implanted in each country vary widely among sources, the U.S. estimate of APL infestation is approximately 60-70 million worldwide.

The Secretary of State's Office of Global Humanitarian Demining (S/GHD) promotes the President's Demining 2010 Initiative and coordinates with the international community to ensure effective and complementary activities and initiatives worldwide. It also fosters public-private partnerships to marshal resources from the public and private sectors.

The objectives of the U.S. humanitarian demining program are to reduce the number of civilian landmine casualties; to return to their homes refugees and internally displaced persons who have been denied access to them by landmines; and to enhance the political and economic stability of nations affected by landmines.

A U.S. Government Interagency Working Group (IWG), chaired by the Department of State (DOS) and vice-chaired by the Department of Defense (DoD), is in charge of approving, developing, and coordinating U.S. humanitarian demining programs. A typical U.S. program involves assisting in the establishment of a mine action center (MAC), a mine awareness program, and a demining training program. As a country develops its mine clearance

abilities, the IWG will periodically evaluate the development of the program. When the program reaches the point of being self-sustaining, the United States passes off its active role to the host nation, although some U.S. funding may continue to sustain demining efforts.

The DoD funds a humanitarian demining program's start-up costs, and the DOS provides the follow-on funds to procure the necessary equipment for mine-affected nations to conduct mine clearance operations. The components of the DoD humanitarian demining program are (1) mine awareness education; (2) assistance in developing MACs; (3) civil-military cooperation; (4) victim assistance; and (5) demining training – or "train the trainer"– which is the core program. More than 4,000 indigenous trainers have benefited from this core program, which represents about 25 percent of deminers working in the field today. From 1996 through 1998, the DoD spent approximately $55.1 million on training programs in 21 countries, and $34.2 million have been appropriated for DoD-sponsored demining operations in fiscal year (FY) 1999. The DoD's Defense Security Cooperation Agency has program management responsibility for humanitarian and civic assistance and humanitarian demining programs, and the theater (regional) commanders-in-chief (CINCs) are responsible for managing and carrying out these programs. The DOS, through its Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Office of Humanitarian Demining Programs (PM/HDP), is the lead agency for coordinating U.S. humanitarian demining programs worldwide. PM/HDP is charged with the day-to-day management of bilateral demining assistance programs. In addition, the DOS' Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration contributes to the multilateral commitment to refugee needs through the United Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees. Finally, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) promotes sustainable development by providing humanitarian services in post-conflict situations. USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Response, Office of Transition Initiatives, bridges the gap between emergency humanitarian assistance and long-term development assistance by supporting organizations and people in emergency transition in conflict-prone countries. USAID's Patrick J. Leahy War Victims Fund (WVF) contributes to improving the mobility, health, and social integration of the disabled, including landmine survivors. Typically, although not exclusively, USAID works through non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop a country's indigenous capacity of sustainable services for amputees.

In Fiscal Years 1993 - 1998, the combined expenditures of the DoD, DOS and USAID on demining programs and projects totaled more than $200 million, and about $100 million has been appropriated by the U.S. Congress to support demining-related programs this fiscal year.

Demining support also comes from other U.S. Government agencies. In October 1998, the U.S. Department of Education's National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research awarded a five-year, $4.25 million grant to the Physicians Against Landmines to establish a Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center. The Center will research and develop innovative prosthetic devices that can be affordably manufactured and serviced in those countries with large numbers of landmine survivors. In cooperation with a number of university and private sector organizations, the Center will also develop educational materials and conduct surveys on rehabilitation services.

At present, the U.S. Government has approved programs to assist 26 landmine-affected countries, and the list is expected to grow longer as the United States approves more applicant countries each year. To Walk the Earth in Safety portrays the lengthy history of the U.S. commitment to, and program priorities for, humanitarian demining in these 26 countries. Whether resources are used to establish a country's MAC, to issue a grant to an NGO to conduct mine awareness education, to initiate a U.S. Army demining train-the-trainer course of instruction, or to produce prostheses, all U.S.-funded support since FY93 to relieve human suffering through demining, and to promote our interests in peace, prosperity, and regional stability is depicted in the following table.

History of U.S. Humanitarian Demining Funding (FY93-FY99 [est.])

Country	FY93	FY94	FY95	FY96	FY97	FY98	FY99 (est.)	Total
Afghanistan (UNOCHA)	3,000,000	5,400,000	3,800,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	2,200,000	2,000,000	21,400,000
Angola (UN/DHA)			6,524,000	7,624,000	2,600,000	2,400,000		19,148,000
Bosnia-Herzegovina				11,288,000	5,375,000	9,400,000	2,605,000	28,668,000
Cambodia	1,961,437	2,849,000	3,400,000	2,152,000	3,600,000	2,900,000	1,500,000	18,362,437
Chad						1,900,000	2,167,000	4,067,000
Ecuador							500,000	500,000
Egypt							1,500,000	1,500,000
Eritrea		600,000	3,250,000	1,437,000	718,000	2,025,000	1,400,000	9, 430,000
Estonia							1,335,000	1,335,000
Ethiopia	730,000	692,000	2,440,000	1,437,000	790,000	1,910,000	800,000	8,799,000
Jordan				300,000	400,000	500,000	2,700,000	3,900,000
Laos			80,000	1,840,000	4,100,000	4,630,000	3,300,000	13,950,000
Lebanon						400,000	1,330,000	1,730,000
Mauritania							350,000	350,000
Mozambique	4,000,000	5,965,000	1,825,000	215,000	2,684,000	2,600,000	2,600,000	19,889,000
Namibia		65,000	2,340,000	500,000	1,885,000	2,450,000	1,153,000	8,393,000
OAS/IADB (Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua)	500,000	360,000	713,000	500,000	1,335,000	3,120,000	4,500,000	11,028,000
Peru							500,000	500,000
Rwanda			4,880,000	475,000	4,210,000	2,500,000	2,200,000	14,265,000
Swaziland						210,000	1,500,000	1,710,000
Thailand							1,800,000	1,800,000
Yemen					78,000	2,900,000	1,700,000	4,678,000
Zimbabwe						2,300,000	743,000	3,043,000
Other						524,400	3,846,000	4,370,400
RDT&E (DoD)			10,000,000	3,000,000	14,700,000	17,700,000	17,700,000	63,100,000
TOTAL 1	**0,191,437**	**15,931,000**	**39,252,000**	**32,768,000**	**45,475,000**	**62,569,400**	**59,729,000**	**265,915,837**

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Source: *The Christian Science Monitor*, March 8, 1999

US Must Sign The Treaty To Ban Land Mines

Jerry White

Fifteen years ago, I was camping in Israel and went hiking in the Golan, near Banyas. It was a beautiful morning ... until the earth exploded around me. I landed on my hands and knees. I smelled something burning and realized my foot was gone.

The international treaty to ban the production, stockpiling, and use of deadly anti-personnel land mines became international law on March 1. Since 1997, 134 countries have signed the treaty. Signers include every country in the Western Hemisphere except the US and Cuba; all NATO members except the United States and Turkey; the entire European Union except Finland; 42 African countries, and 17 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Japan.

President Clinton pledged five years ago to "lead a global movement to eliminate these terrible weapons and stop the enormous loss of human life." He refuses to sign the ban now, saying instead that the US will sign it in 2006 provided alternatives to land mines can be developed for use on the Korean peninsula. By then Mr. Clinton will have escaped Washington intact, but an estimated 150,000 additional people will have lost life or limb.

Those of us who have experienced a land mine exploding under our legs and in our faces do not accept Clinton's refusal to sign the treaty. We now implore the president to follow through on his commitment by signing the ban.

Defense officials say American mines are not the problem. But what about our land mines left behind after World War II, Vietnam, Korea, tens of thousands dropped randomly during the Gulf War, and nearly 5 million US mines exported since 1969. They keep showing up as deadly military litter in Cambodia, Iraq, El Salvador, Angola, Somalia, Laos, and Afghanistan. Today, tens of millions of mines lie buried in more than 65 countries. We certainly share the blame and must lead the cleanup.

Some 300,000 people around the globe live with shattered limbs and lives, and the number is growing. Those of us who have survived are the "lucky" ones. Most victims die with no one to document their tragedy, killed by a weapon of mass destruction in slow motion that has claimed more lives than have nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons combined.

Global humanitarians, including Queen Noor of Jordan, well understand that the mass human suffering inflicted by land mines far outweighs their very limited military utility. Survivors have been told that landmines are needed to protect our young soldiers on the Korean Peninsula, but tell that to Irv Axelrod, an American survivor who stepped on a US-made mine during the Korean war. Landmines offer no real protection. Respected military leaders, including General Norman Schwarzkopf and former commanders of US forces in Europe and Korea have said antipersonnel landmines are not essential, and that banning them would not undermine the military effectiveness or safety of our forces, nor those of other nations. Like poison gas, landmines must be banned.

State department officials suggest that the Pentagon is the real problem, and that the White House actually would like to sign the treaty. Last time I checked, the president was still the commander

in chief of the armed forces. And while the Pentagon has never voluntarily given up a weapon, it's time for the military to abandon its deadly addiction to landmines.

This century, over a hundred thousand Americans have been killed or injured by land mines. Survivors injured in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, as well as US peacekeepers injured in Bosnia, and civilian victims injured in Africa and the Mideast, are joining in our call for Clinton to sign the land-mine ban in 1999. Let us walk into the new century with honor and hope for a land-mine-free world.

Jerry White is co-founder and director of Landmine Survivors Network, an international humanitarian organization based in Washington, D.C.

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Hidden Killers 1998: The Global Landmine Crisis
Preface and Executive Summary

Executive Summary

"Global landmine contamination has been recognized by the international community as a pressing humanitarian problem."
--Tun Channareth, Landmine Victim, 1998

Since the Department of State's last landmine report was issued in 1994, several developments have altered significantly the status of the global humanitarian crisis caused by antipersonnel (APL) landmines. This report is designed to take account of those developments and their impact on the problem, as well as to add new information to the baseline data and update the status of 12 of the most severely mine-affected countries.(Footnote 1) Much of the background data in the 1994 report remains valid and has not been repeated in this updated edition.

The 1994 report painted the picture of an endless, perhaps insurmountable, challenge. On the basis of data available at that time, the 1994 report estimated that the world was littered with some 80-110 million landmines, and that each year only 80,000 were being lifted while some 2.5 million were being planted. The data compiled in this year's report reflect four years of extensive experience in dealing with the problem and in acquiring more accurate information. They enable us to provide a more realistic assessment of the challenge, as well as the actions needed by the international community to eliminate this scourge.

First, we now calculate that the total number of landmines in place around the world is approximately 30 to 50 percent lower than originally estimated, which puts the number closer to 60 million than 100 million. Second, landmines are not being planted at as high a rate as estimated in 1994, certainly well below 2.5 million each year. By most expert assessments, more landmines in fact are being taken out of the ground than are being planted. Third, the mobilization of international attention and resources for humanitarian demining is accelerating solutions and proving that concerted international intervention does dramatically reduce the carnage of landmines to civilians. While the problem is still huge, many experts now believe that the APL crisis can be solved in years rather than decades.

The United States remains committed to eliminating APL and the humanitarian crisis they cause. There is no question that initiatives by the United States and others have helped focus international attention on the need to address the threat these weapons pose to civilians. On September 24, 1994, in the United Nations General Assembly, President Clinton was the first world leader to call for the elimination of APL. Since then, U.S. efforts have included the following:

- The United States played a key role in 1996 in concluding the Amended Mines Protocol to the Convention on Conventional Weapons. The Protocol significantly strengthens restrictions on landmine use and transfer, and has the potential to substantially reduce indiscriminate landmine use and save lives.

- In 1996, the United States unilaterally ended its use of non-self-destructing APL(the kind that kill civilians long after conflicts have ended (except for in marked and monitored minefields in Korea).

- The United States has announced that it will end all APL use outside Korea by 2003 and seek to have APL alternatives ready for Korea by 2006.

- At the direction of the President, the U.S. Department of Defense is actively investigating possible alternatives to current APLs and mixed munitions in its inventory.

- On December 3-4, 1997, more than 120 countries signed the "Ottawa Convention" banning APL use, production, stockpiling and transfer. The United States will sign the Convention by 2006 if we succeed in identifying and fielding suitable alternatives to our APL and mixed antitank systems by that date.

- The United States has a unilateral ban on APL transfers, and is seeking a worldwide ban in the Conference on Disarmament since this includes key states that are not part of the Ottawa Convention.

The increased focus on the landmine issue has also brought about broad consensus on the need for more effective international coordination in tackling humanitarian demining in the mine-affected countries. This, in turn, has produced a better rationalization of mine action within the United Nations (UN) family and brought additional donor government support. It has also resulted in the engagement of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in coalitions with governments and international organizations to focus resources

more effectively on humanitarian demining. The aim of the President's Demining 2010 Initiative is to sustain and accelerate these trends through an effective international campaign to remove the threat of landmines to civilians worldwide by the year 2010. We believe this goal is within reach.

Specific Findings

- Calculating the total number of landmines affecting the world today remains a difficult task. While we believe the number is considerably less than the 80-110 million previously estimated, probably on the order of 60 million, it is still staggering.

- A more relevant measure of the problem, however, is not the number of landmines per country, but the number of square kilometers of productive land rendered unusable by the presence or suspected presence of landmines or other unexploded ordnance (UXO). This measure provides the international community a better basis for determining how to direct and prioritize its humanitarian demining efforts to return land to safe and productive use.

- The impact of landmines extends far beyond the immediate danger to individual lives and property and affects virtually every aspect of life in heavily mine-infested regions. The toll that landmines take is far greater than the $300-1,000 required to remove one of them from the ground or the cost ($100 to $3,000) to provide a prosthetic device for a victim. These costs are especially onerous for agrarian societies which typify the mine-infested areas.

- The unseen costs and impact of landmines include:

  -- Medical: Treatment and rehabilitation of victims, when services are available, can take years and deplete scarce medical resources in poor countries.

  -- Refugees and repatriation: The presence of landmines impedes the return of refugees and the rebuilding of war-torn societies, prolonging the consequences of war and armed conflict.

  -- Economic: Landmines prevent the fullest utilization of farmland, destroy livestock, and disrupt markets and production patterns. Their presence inhibits tourism and other potential investment and development opportunities. Retarding economic recovery and reconstruction may increase tensions and instability in the region. Fewer resources are available for reconstruction and development.

  -- Environmental: Damage to wildlife, forests, and other environmental resources has consequences for both economic and social development. Minefields sometimes become breeding grounds for disease.

  -- Security: The presence of landmines threatens the peace process and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction. Landmines may impede humanitarian assistance efforts, prevent delivery of urgently needed services and supplies, and discourage potential investors.

- The 12 mine-infested countries profiled herein account for almost 50 percent of the world's landmine problem.

- Using the best available current data for these 12 countries and comparing the data to earlier estimates of mine infestation for the same countries, we conclude that the earlier estimates were 30 percent higher than current best estimates. The reduction in estimated mine infestation for those countries with the most mature demining programs is even higher, nearly 50 percent.

- This would mean that the long-accepted range of 80-110 million landmines in the ground worldwide is overestimated. Extrapolating from the above conclusions, with a conservative 30 percent reduction, a better estimate of the global problem would be roughly 60-70 million. Using the more aggressive 50 percent reduction, the number would be 45-50 million. (See Chapter III for a schematic of the computation methodology.)

- Technology is playing an increasing role in humanitarian demining with government, academia, industry, and NGOs combining expertise to identify new technological approaches. The greatest gain will come from technologies that improve mine detection and protection for deminers.

- Achieving the goal of 2010 will require a significant leap in the effective application of technology to demining. This will be possible, in turn, only with much greater international cooperation and coordination among technology producers and users.

- Although the international community has tackled only, as yet, a small part of the problem, intervention in the most heavily mine-infested countries has already

produced dramatic results in reducing the number of victims through mine awareness and humanitarian demining programs. As a result of its own humanitarian demining programs, the United States expects to be able to declare several Central American countries mine-free by the year 2000.

- Resources for humanitarian demining are rising. 1996-97 saw a marked increase in mine action programs worldwide. Several donor governments made generous new multi-year pledges, promising sustained support for mine action programs. Many donors have channeled demining assistance through the UN, but most have contributed directly through bilateral programs for mine-affected countries. The private sector has also become a substantial source of new resources for humanitarian demining. These various sources of funding and activities underline the need for intensified international coordination and planning.

- The UN developed a new coordination plan under the leadership of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) and its new Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and began developing standards for various aspects of mine action.

- Other international and regional organizations expanded their programs, and private sector organizations brought innovative new concepts into the mix along with much needed resources.

- Accelerated humanitarian demining operations will require much better coordination at two levels: on the ground in mine-affected countries and

internationally. This will require, as a first step, a coordinated strategy for assessing the gravity of the problem in each mine-affected country using a single set of standards.

- For effective reconstruction, demining programs must be integrated with basic social and economic development, to include victim assistance.

- Removal of landmines is only one part of the answer. Removal must be preceded by intensified attention to mine awareness training and accompanied by victim/survivor assistance programs. Effective, comprehensive mine awareness programs can significantly reduce the rate of death and injury from landmines which the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) estimates to be in the range of 26,000 people a year. Survivor assistance must incorporate not only emergency treatment and prosthetics, but also longer-term rehabilitation to mitigate the lingering impact of landmine infestation on war-torn societies.

Footnotes

1. Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Eritrea, Iraq (Kurdistan), Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Somalia, and Sudan.

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Awareness Campaign

You and your partner have been hired by the government of Eritrea to educate the people of this country about the potential dangers of the landmines that are in Eritrea. You need to create an awareness campaign that will educate these refugees in terms of political, social, and economic consequences associated with anti-personnel landmines. You may be as creative as possible so that the refugees will gain the knowledge necessary to keep them and their families safe from the land mines.

Your mine awareness campaign needs to include the following:

1. A poster or pamphlet that will educate these refugees in terms of the political, social, and economic consequences associated with
anti-personnel land mines.

2. A public awareness program which should consist of the following components:

   a. a transcript of a radio broadcast campaign for mine awareness.

   b. an outline of a special media event to focus on mine awareness. This could include singers and actors performing and depicting the dangers of landmines.

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Film and Video Clips

The Silent Shout. Helping Children Learn About Landmines. UNICEF Division of Communication. New York, undated.

To order send a check for $25 payable to "Digital Generations Systems", along with a request for the film on school letterhead. Indicate your preference for an NTSC version of the Film 335 (The Silent Shout) in English. Send your order to

Digital Generation Systems, Inc.
UNICEF's Duplication Facility
c/o UNICEF
3 UN Plaza
New York, NY 10017 USA
Attn: Mr. Aaron Nmungwun, H-9F

Also indicate that you will use this film for classroom purposes. For more information about the film, see the UNICEF web site at www.unicef.org